

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Monthly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

February, 2025

INDEX

Art & Culture, Ancient and Medieval History	2
Answer Key	3
Answers & Explanations	3
Modern Indian History.....	5
Answer Key	6
Answers & Explanations	6
Geography.....	7
Answer Key	11
Answers & Explanations	11
Polity	15
Answer Key	23
Answers & Explanations	23
Acts & Policies	30
Answer Key	36
Answers & Explanations	36
Index & Reports	42
Answer Key	43
Answers & Explanations	43
International Relations/Organizations	44
Answer Key	48
Answers & Explanations	48
Economy	53
Answer Key	58
Answers & Explanations	58
Environment.....	64
Answer Key	70
Answers & Explanations	70
Science & Technology	76
Answer Key	82
Answers & Explanations	82

Art & Culture, Ancient and Medieval History

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Sarna religion does not have a holy scripture or centralized religious text.
2. The demand for a separate Sarna code aims to create a new state for tribal populations.
3. Believers of the Sarna faith practice idol worship.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. Sambhaji Maharaj was given in the title of 'Maharaja'.
2. Shivaji engaged in both conflict and diplomacy with the Mughals, whereas Sambhaji aggressively resisted Mughal expansion without seeking reconciliation.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.3) Which one of the following sites in Tamil Nadu has provided the earliest evidence of iron use in India?

- a) Adichanallur
- b) Mayiladumparai
- c) Sivagalai
- d) Kausambi

Q.4) Which one of the following is the objective of 'Unity Utsav', recently organized by the Assam Rifles?

- a) Promote trade between Northeast India and Delhi
- b) Strengthen national identity through sports and culture
- c) Establish new educational institutions in the Northeast
- d) Recruit youth for the Assam Rifles

Q.5) The Jhumoir dance is primarily associated with which one of the following communities in Assam?

- a) Urban youth
- b) Tea-garden communities
- c) Tribal groups
- d) Religious minorities

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the Kashi Tamil Sangamam:

1. It aims to strengthen the cultural bond between Tamil Nadu and Kashi.
2. It aligns with Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat initiative.
3. Adi Shankara is the central theme of Kashi Tamil Sangamam 3.0.
4. It emphasizes integrating Indian knowledge systems with modern education.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2 and 4 only

Q.7) Which one of the following organizations is responsible for evaluating natural heritage sites nominated for World Heritage status?

- International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- World Bank

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- Abhinaya Darpana is the primary source of theoretical foundation for Odissi dance.
- Mayadhar Raut is considered the father of Odissi.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Q.9) Which one of the following tribes primarily celebrates the Nyokum Yullo festival?

- Adi
- Apatani
- Nyishi
- Galo

Answer Key

1 – (a)	2 – (b)	3 – (b)	4 – (b)	5 – (b)	6 – (d)	7 – (b)	8 – (b)	9 – (c)
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Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Sarna religion relies on oral traditions and rituals tied to nature, without any holy scripture or centralized religious text.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The demand for a Sarna code is about recognizing Sarna as a distinct religion in the census, not about creating a new state. It is aimed at preserving the cultural and religious identity of tribal communities. Followers of the Sarna faith worship nature, including trees, rivers, hills, and forests, and do not practice idol worship.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Sambhaji Maharaj was not given the title of "Maharaja." Instead, like his father Shivaji Maharaj, he was crowned as Chhatrapati, a title signifying "supreme sovereign" or "emperor."
- Statement 2 is correct. Shivaji Maharaj, after his escape from Agra in 1666, maintained a period of relative peace with the Mughals through treaties like the Treaty of Purandar (1665). He focused on consolidating his empire and avoided direct conflicts with the Mughals for some time. In contrast, Sambhaji Maharaj adopted an aggressive stance against the Mughal Empire throughout his reign. He launched attacks on Mughal territories, including the raid on Burhanpur in 1681, and provided refuge to Prince Akbar, Aurangzeb's rebellious son.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Excavations at Mayiladumparai, located in Krishnagiri district, have provided the earliest confirmed evidence of iron usage in India, dating back to 2172 BCE (approximately 4,200 years ago). Sivagalai has also shown potential evidence of iron use dating as early as 3345 BCE, but these findings are still under analysis and not yet universally accepted as definitive proof of large-scale iron usage.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Unity Utsav — One Voice, One Nation, organized by Assam Rifles in collaboration with the North East Association Social Welfare, aimed to promote national unity and pride by celebrating the sportsmanship and cultural heritage of Northeast India. The event brought together over 1,000 students from the eight Northeastern states to participate in sports competitions, cultural performances, and traditional music and dance. The festival emphasized the theme of "unity in diversity," fostering a sense of national identity through the celebration of regional traditions and talents.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Jhumoir dance is primarily associated with tea-garden communities in Assam. It is a traditional folk dance performed by the tea tribes, often during harvest seasons, festivals, and other celebrations, reflecting their cultural heritage and daily lives.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. The Kashi Tamil Sangamam celebrates the historical and cultural connection between Tamil Nadu and Kashi, highlighting their shared heritage and fostering unity in diversity. The event is aligned with the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat initiative, which promotes cultural and linguistic unity across India. The event aligns with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which emphasizes integrating Indian knowledge systems with modern education, fostering academic collaboration and cultural understanding.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The central theme of Kashi Tamil Sangamam 3.0 is based on "Legacy of Sage Agastya," not Adi Shankara.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is the official advisory body responsible for evaluating natural and mixed heritage sites nominated for UNESCO World Heritage status. Since the inception of the World Heritage Convention in 1972, IUCN has played a key role in assessing the technical, ecological, and conservation aspects of natural sites to determine their Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and suitability for inclusion on the World Heritage List. It also monitors the conservation status of existing natural and mixed heritage sites.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Odissi draws extensively from texts like the "Abhinaya Chandrika" by Rajmani Patra and the "Abhinaya Darpana Prakasha" by Jadunatha Sinha and Nattyashastra.
- Statement 2 is correct. Guru Mayadhar Raut is widely regarded as the "Father of Odissi Dance" for his pivotal role in reviving, codifying, and restructuring Odissi into a classical dance form during the 1950s. He introduced elements like Mudra Viniyoga, Sanchari Bhava, and Rasa Theory, which enriched Odissi's vocabulary and performance style. He helped establish Kala Vikas Kendra in Cuttack, which was the first institute to officially teach Odissi. He co-founded the Jayantika Association in 1959, which worked on codifying and developing Odissi by structuring its movements, expressions (Abhinaya), and vocabulary.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)

- Nyokum Yullo is a festival celebrated by the Nyishi tribe of Arunachal Pradesh, India. It is a harvest and community festival that seeks prosperity, harmony, and well-being for the people.

Source: [AIR](#)

Modern Indian History

Q.1) Which of the following statements are correct regarding the Fort William?

1. It was constructed by the British East India Company after the Battle of Buxar.
2. Black Hole of Calcutta incident is associated with the fort.
3. After India's independence, Fort William became the headquarters of the Indian Army's Eastern Command.
4. It has been renamed as Shivaji Fort to honour India's military heritage.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1, 3 and 4 only
- b) 2 and 4 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3 only

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati:

1. He founded the Prarthana Samaj.
2. He wrote Satyarth Prakash.
3. He emphasized the Upanishads as the ultimate source of truth.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.3) With reference to the Neuve Chapelle Indian War Memorial, consider the following statements:

1. It honours the sacrifices of Indian soldiers and labourers who served in the British Indian Army during the First World War.
2. It features a large dome as a central element of the structure.
3. The central column of the memorial was inspired by Emperor Ashoka's inscribed columns.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.4) With reference to Hansa Jivraj Mehta, a prominent Indian freedom fighter, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. She was the first woman vice-chancellor in India.
2. She argued for equality and justice for women without special privileges in the Indian Constitution.
3. She led armed rebellions against British rule.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 2 and 3 only

Answer Key

1 - (c)	2 - (a)	3 - (b)	4 - (c)
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Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 4 are incorrect. The original Fort William was constructed by the British East India Company between 1696 and 1706, long before the Battle of Buxar (1764). It was later rebuilt after being damaged during Siraj-ud-Daulah's attack in 1756. Fort William has been renamed Vijay Durg, as part of India's efforts to shed colonial legacies and embrace indigenous heritage. The new name draws inspiration from the historic Maratha naval fort Vijay Durg in Maharashtra, symbolizing India's rich cultural heritage.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Black Hole of Calcutta incident occurred in 1756 when Siraj-ud-Daulah captured Fort William, and many British prisoners were confined in a small dungeon, leading to several deaths. Following India's independence in 1947, Fort William was repurposed as the headquarters for the Indian Army's Eastern Command.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The Prarthana Samaj was founded by Atmaram Pandurang in 1867 and later popularized by reformers like Mahadev Govind Ranade. Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati, on the other hand, founded the Arya Samaj in 1875. Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati emphasized the Vedas, not the Upanishads, as the ultimate source of truth. His slogan, "Back to the Vedas," reflects his belief in the supremacy of Vedic knowledge.
- Statement 2 is correct. Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati authored Satyarth Prakash (The Light of Truth), which is a seminal text outlining his philosophy, critiques of other religions, and advocacy for returning to Vedic principles.

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The memorial commemorates over 4,700 Indian soldiers and labourers who lost their lives on the Western Front during World War I and have no known graves. It was specifically built to honour their contributions, particularly in battles such as Neuve Chapelle. The 15-meter-high column at the centre of the memorial was inspired by Emperor Ashoka's famous inscribed columns from the 3rd century BCE. It is topped with a lotus capital, the Star of India, and the Imperial British Crown.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The memorial does not have a large dome as its central feature. Instead, its central element is a 15-meter-high column inspired by Emperor Ashoka's inscribed pillars. The memorial includes two small domed structures (chattris) at either end of the semicircular enclosure, but these are not central elements.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Hansa Mehta was the first woman Vice-Chancellor in India, serving at SNDT Women's University from 1946 to 1948. She later became the Vice-Chancellor of Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda (1949-1958), making her the first woman to lead a co-educational university in India. In the Constituent Assembly, Hansa Mehta strongly advocated for gender equality and opposed reserved seats or quotas for women, emphasizing equality on merit. She believed in social, economic, and political justice for women without special privileges. She presented India's National Flag to the Constituent Assembly on behalf of Indian women on August

15, 1947. As President of the All-India Women's Conference (1945–46), she drafted the Indian Women's Charter of Rights and Duties, demanding equal rights for women in education, property, suffrage, and pay.

- Statement 3 is incorrect. Hansa Mehta was a Gandhian who participated in non-violent movements like the Non-Cooperation Movement and Salt Satyagraha. She was arrested during these protests but did not lead armed rebellions. She actively participated in movements like picketing foreign goods and liquor shops. She founded the Desh Sevika Dal (a group of female freedom fighters) in 1930. She played a key role during the campaign against the Simon Commission. She opposed religious-based personal laws and pushed for a Uniform Civil Code, emphasizing secularism in governance.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Geography

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. La Niña is defined by sustained cooling of sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific.
2. La Niña shifts the jet stream southward, leading to wet conditions in the southern U.S.
3. La Niña enhances monsoon rainfall in India.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 1 and 3 only

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. Bihar is the only state in India where Makhana is produced.
2. The Makhana Board aims to improve the production, processing, value addition, and marketing of Makhana.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. India shares its longest border with Bangladesh.
2. The India-Bangladesh border passes through six Indian states.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.4) 'Sandbars' and 'chars' are landforms created by the:

- a) Erosion of coastal cliffs by wave action
- b) Deposition of sediment by water currents
- c) Volcanic activity leading to lava flows
- d) Tectonic movements causing land uplift

Q.5) Which one of the following is least likely to be a direct consequence of glacier retreat?

- a) Loss of freshwater sources for millions of people
- b) Increase in land area due to glacier shrinkage
- c) More frequent landslides and avalanches in mountainous regions
- d) Disruption of river flow patterns affecting agriculture

Q.6) Which one of the following correctly differentiates La Niña with El Niño?

- a) La Niña leads to the warming of the central and eastern Pacific Ocean, while El Niño causes cooling in these regions.
- b) La Niña weakens trade winds, whereas El Niño strengthens them.
- c) La Niña is associated with drier conditions in India, while El Niño brings excessive rainfall.
- d) La Niña strengthens trade winds and cools the eastern Pacific, while El Niño weakens trade winds and warms the eastern Pacific.

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Zemu Glacier is the primary source of the Teesta River.
- 2. The Teesta River originates from Western Himalayas.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Ghana shares land border with Nigeria.
- 2. Nigeria is rich in lithium reserves.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Western Disturbances are tropical cyclones originating in the Arabian Sea.
- 2. Northern and northwestern parts of India are most affected by Western Disturbances during winter.
- 3. Western Disturbances are associated with high temperatures during winters in India.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 2 only
- d) 3 only

Q.10) With reference to the Panama Canal, consider the following statements:

- 1. It connects the Atlantic Ocean with the Mediterranean Sea.
- 2. Lake Balboa is an artificial lake that forms a significant portion of the Panama Canal.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.11) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Andhra Pradesh is the state with the longest coastline in India.
- 2. Machilipatnam port is being developed in Andhra Pradesh.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.12) Netzarim corridor separates:

- a) Northern Gaza from southern Gaza
- b) Israel from Gaza
- c) Gaza from Egypt
- d) West Bank from Gaza

Q.13) Consider the following statements regarding the South Lhonak Lake:

- 1. It is located in Arunachal Pradesh.
- 2. It is a glacial lake.
- 3. Brahmaputra River basin is fed by the waters of the lake.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 1 and 3 only

Q.14) Consider the following statements with respect to Santorini Island:

- 1. It is part of the Cyclades Island group.
- 2. It is located in the Aegean Sea.
- 3. It is a coral atoll.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Marine heatwaves (MHWs) are extreme weather events where the sea surface temperature (SST) rises by 3 to 4 degrees Celsius above the average for at least five consecutive days.
- 2. Increased ocean salinity is one of the common causes of Marine Heatwaves.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.16) Which of the following are the causes of increasing temperatures in the North Pole?

- 1. Influx of warm air from lower latitudes
- 2. Increased volcanic activity in the Arctic region
- 3. The albedo effect
- 4. Enhanced solar radiation due to a thinner ozone layer

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 2 and 4 only

Q.17) Which one of the following statements best describes the term 'dunki route'?

- a) A legal migration program for skilled workers to obtain employment visas in developed nations.
- b) A traditional trade route historically used for transporting goods across Central Asia and Europe.
- c) An irregular and illegal migration route used to enter foreign countries without proper documentation.
- d) A diplomatic corridor established for high-level government negotiations between neighbouring countries.

Q.18) Jogighopa Inland Waterways Terminal (IWT) is situated on which one of the following rivers?

- a) Ganges
- b) Yamuna
- c) Brahmaputra
- d) Godavari

Q.19) Consider the following statements with respect to the Aravali hills:

- 1. The Aravali hills are a part of the Deccan Plateau uplifted due to tectonic activity.
- 2. It stretches across Rajasthan from Gujarat to near Delhi.
- 3. They combat desertification by checking the spread of the Thar Desert.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.20) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Pir Panjal Range is a sub-range of the Greater Himalayas.
- 2. Banihal Pass is located in Pir Panjal Range.
- 3. Apharwat peak is considered the highest peak in the Pir Panjal Range.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.21) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Makhana is recognized as a superfood.

Statement-II: Makhana grows in stagnant water bodies.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Q.22) Primordial magma refers to:

- a) Magma formed due to recent volcanic activity on the Moon.
- b) Magma found only in the Earth's mantle and not on other celestial bodies.
- c) A type of molten rock that forms exclusively from meteorite impacts.
- d) Ancient molten rock from the early stages of a celestial body's formation.

Q.23) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: A leap year has 366 days instead of 365.

Statement-II: A day is added in February to adjust for the extra days lost each year.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Q.24) Which one of the following countries does NOT share a land border with Honduras?

- a) Nicaragua
- b) Costa Rica
- c) El Salvador
- d) Guatemala

Q.25) Which one of the following statements is correct regarding the Philadelphi Corridor?

- a) It connects the Gaza Strip to the West Bank.
- b) It serves as a buffer zone between Gaza and Egypt.
- c) It links Israel to the Mediterranean Sea.
- d) It is a trade route between Egypt and Israel.

Answer Key

1 – (d)	2 – (b)	3 – (a)	4 – (b)	5 – (b)
6 – (d)	7 – (d)	8 – (b)	9 – (c)	10 – (d)
11 – (b)	12 – (a)	13 – (b)	14 – (a)	15 – (a)
16 – (b)	17 – (c)	18 – (c)	19 – (b)	20 – (a)
21 – (b)	22 – (d)	23 – (a)	24 – (b)	25 – (b)

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. La Niña is characterized by a sustained cooling of sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific, typically 0.5°C or more below normal for several months. La Niña strengthens the Indian monsoon, leading to above-normal rainfall due to stronger Walker Circulation and increased moisture transport from the Indian Ocean.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. La Niña shifts the jet stream northward, not southward. This causes drier conditions in the southern U.S. and wetter conditions in the northern U.S.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. While Bihar is the leading producer of Makhana, accounting for about 85-90% of India's production, it is not the only state where Makhana is cultivated. Other states like West Bengal, Assam, Manipur, Tripura, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan also produce Makhana, although at a much smaller scale.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Makhana Board, announced in the Union Budget 2025-26, has been established to enhance the production, processing infrastructure, value addition, and marketing of Makhana. It also aims to provide training and support to farmers while ensuring they benefit from relevant government schemes.

Source: [PIB](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. India shares a 4,096 km long border with Bangladesh, which is the longest land border India shares with any country.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The India-Bangladesh border passes through five Indian states: West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- Sandbars and chars are formed when water currents slow down, causing sediment to settle and accumulate. Sandbars form in rivers, seas, or oceans, while chars are created in river basins, particularly in regions like the Ganga-Brahmaputra delta.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- While glacier retreat exposes new land, this does not significantly contribute to an increase in usable land area. The exposed terrain is often rocky, unstable, and unsuitable for habitation or agriculture.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (D)

- La Niña is characterized by the strengthening of trade winds, which leads to cooler-than-average sea surface temperatures in the eastern Pacific. This cooling enhances upwelling, bringing nutrient-rich waters to the surface and often resulting in wetter conditions in regions like India due to stronger monsoons. In contrast, El Niño weakens trade winds, causing warmer-than-average sea surface temperatures in the eastern Pacific. This warming disrupts normal weather patterns, often leading to drier conditions in India and reduced marine productivity due to weaker upwelling.

Source: [DD News](#)

7. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Teesta River originates from the Tso Lhamo Lake in North Sikkim, which is fed by glaciers such as the Pauhunri Glacier, Khangse Glacier, and Chho Lhamo Lake. While Zemu Glacier contributes water to the region, it is not the primary source of the Teesta River. The Teesta River originates from the Eastern Himalayas in Sikkim.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Ghana does not share a land border with Nigeria. The two countries are separated by Togo and Benin.
- Statement 2 is correct. Nigeria has significant lithium deposits in states like Nasarawa, Kogi, Kwara, Ekiti, and Cross River. These reserves are gaining attention due to the rising global demand for lithium-ion batteries for electric vehicles and renewable energy systems.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. Western Disturbances are extratropical cyclones. They originate in the Mediterranean region and move eastward, affecting India. Western Disturbances often lead to cloudy conditions, rainfall, and a drop in temperature during winter, rather than increasing temperatures.
- Statement 2 is correct. Western Disturbances bring rainfall, snowfall, and temperature fluctuations primarily to northern and northwestern India during winter. States like Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Jammu & Kashmir are significantly impacted.

Source: [DD News](#)

10. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Panama Canal connects the Atlantic Ocean (via the Caribbean Sea) with the Pacific Ocean. The artificial lake that forms a significant portion of the Panama Canal is Gatun Lake.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Gujarat holds the distinction of having the longest coastline among Indian states. According to the Survey of India, Gujarat's coastline measures approximately 2,340.62 kilometers, making it the state with the most extensive coastline in the country.
- Statement 2 is correct. Machilipatnam is a port city located in Andhra Pradesh, and it is being developed as part of the state's efforts to boost its port infrastructure and economy.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Netzarim Corridor is a 6-kilometer-long stretch of land in the Gaza Strip that divides northern Gaza from southern Gaza. It was established by the Israeli military during the 2023-2025 Gaza War as a militarized zone to monitor and control the movement of Palestinians between the two regions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. South Lhonak Lake is located in the far northwestern region of Sikkim, India, at an altitude of approximately 5,200 meters above sea level. The waters from South Lhonak Lake flow into the Teesta River basin, not the Brahmaputra River basin.
- Statement 2 is correct. South Lhonak Lake is a glacial-moraine-dammed lake, formed by the melting of the South Lhonak Glacier. It is one of the fastest-expanding glacial lakes in the Sikkim Himalayas.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Santorini is the southernmost island in the Cyclades group, a collection of islands in the Aegean Sea. Santorini is situated in the southern Aegean Sea, southeast of mainland Greece.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Santorini is not a coral atoll; it is a volcanic island formed from the remnants of a massive volcanic eruption that created a caldera.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

15. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Marine heatwaves (MHWs) are defined as periods when sea surface temperatures (SST) rise by 3 to 4 degrees Celsius for at least five consecutive days.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Increased ocean salinity is not a common cause of marine heatwaves. Instead, MHWs are primarily driven by atmospheric heat flux (heating from the atmosphere) and ocean currents that transport warm water into a region. Other contributing factors include climate change and natural climate variability like El Niño events.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- The increasing temperatures in the North Pole, a phenomenon known as Arctic amplification, are influenced by factors such as:
 - **Influx of warm air from lower latitudes:** This is a significant contributor. Warmer air masses from southern regions are increasingly moving into the Arctic, raising temperatures.
 - **The albedo effect:** This plays a crucial role. As reflective sea ice melts, it exposes darker ocean surfaces that absorb more solar radiation, leading to further warming.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

17. Correct Answer is (C)

- The "dunki route" refers to unauthorized migration pathways often used to enter countries illegally, bypassing official immigration channels. It is commonly associated with South Asians attempting to reach Western nations via indirect and risky routes.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

18. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Jogighopa Inland Waterways Terminal (IWT) is situated on the Brahmaputra River, which is part of National Waterway-2 (NW-2). It was inaugurated to enhance trade and connectivity in Northeast India and with neighbouring countries like Bhutan and Bangladesh. The terminal is strategically located to facilitate cargo movement and boost regional trade.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Aravali Hills are not part of the Deccan Plateau. They are part of the Indian Shield and were formed through tectonic activity during the Proterozoic Era, resulting from the collision of cratons (Bundelkhand and Marwar cratons). They are among the oldest fold mountains in the world.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Aravali Hills extend diagonally from Gujarat in the southwest to Delhi in the northeast, passing through Rajasthan and Haryana. The range is approximately 692–700 km long. The Aravalis act as a natural barrier, preventing the eastward expansion of the Thar Desert into fertile plains. They also play a role in groundwater recharge and regulating climate patterns in the region.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The Pir Panjal Range is part of the Lesser Himalayas, not the Greater Himalayas. It is the largest and westernmost range of the Lesser Himalayan region, forming a natural boundary between the Kashmir Valley and the outer plains. The highest peak is Tatakooti Peak, which rises to an elevation of 4,760 meters.
- Statement 2 is correct. Banihal Pass, also known as Jawahar Tunnel, is located in the Pir Panjal Range. It connects Banihal with Qazigund and serves as an important route between Jammu and Kashmir.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (B)

- Makhana (also known as fox nuts or lotus seeds) is recognized as a superfood due to its high nutritional value. It grows in stagnant water bodies such as ponds and wetlands. However, the fact that it grows in stagnant water bodies is not the reason it is considered a superfood. The superfood status comes from its nutritional properties, not its growing conditions. It has received a Geographical Indication (GI) tag as "Mithila Makhana" and is part of the "One District One Product" scheme. The makhana board will work on branding, packaging, and export promotion to make makhana globally popular.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (D)

- Primordial magma refers to the molten material that existed during the early stages of a celestial body's formation, such as Earth or other planets. This magma formed when the body was still hot and partially or fully molten, often resulting in a global magma ocean before cooling and solidifying into layers like the crust and mantle.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement I is correct. A leap year includes an extra day (February 29), making it 366 days long instead of the usual 365 days. This adjustment occurs every four years to account for the Earth's orbit around the Sun, which takes approximately 365.24 days.
- Statement II is correct. The Earth's orbit around the Sun takes about 365 days and 6 hours. These extra hours accumulate over four years to form a full day (6 hours \times 4 = 24 hours). To correct this discrepancy and keep the calendar in sync with the Earth's orbit, an extra day is added to February every four years.
- Therefore, the addition of an extra day in February (Statement-II) is the reason why a leap year has 366 days (Statement-I).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (B)

- Honduras, officially known as the Republic of Honduras (República de Honduras), is a Central American country. Honduras is situated in Central America, bordered by: Guatemala to the west, El Salvador to the southwest, Nicaragua to the southeast, the Caribbean Sea to the north, and the Pacific Ocean (via the Gulf of Fonseca) to the south. Costa Rica does not share a land border with Honduras.

Source: [AIR](#)

25. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Philadelphi Corridor is a narrow strip of land along the border between the Gaza Strip and Egypt, functioning as a buffer zone to prevent smuggling and maintain security. It spans approximately 14 kilometres and has been a critical area for Israeli security operations and ceasefire negotiations. It was established under Camp David Accords (1979). Rafah Crossing is located within the Philadelphi Corridor.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Polity

Q.1) Which of the following countries follow 'Jus Sanguinis' (Right of Blood) principle of guaranteeing citizenship?

1. India
2. Germany
3. Canada
4. United States

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 2 and 4 only

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India (AKFI):

1. It is the central governing body for kabaddi in India.
2. It regulates all forms of kabaddi.
3. Its headquarters is located in New Delhi.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.3) With reference to the State Emblem of India, which of the following statements are correct?

1. The State Emblem of India is adapted from the Gateway of India.
2. It was officially adopted on 26th January 1950.
3. The motto Satyameva Jayate is inscribed below the abacus in Devanagari script.
4. Only authorized government entities can use the emblem.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 3 and 4 only

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. The Motion of Thanks is a formal parliamentary procedure in India that follows the President's Address to a joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament.
2. If the Motion of Thanks is not passed by the Lok Sabha, the government must resign.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.5) With reference to the ad-hoc judges in the High Court, consider the following statements:

1. As per the Indian Constitution, ad-hoc judges can only hear criminal appeals.
2. Approval of the President of India is required for the appointment of ad-hoc judges.
3. Ad-hoc judges can be appointed only when vacancies in a High Court exceed 20% of its sanctioned strength.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.6) Consider the following pairs:

Article -----States

1. Article 371A -----Assam
2. Article 371C-----Manipur
3. Article 371G-----Mizoram

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- a) Only one pair
- b) Only two pairs
- c) All three pairs
- d) None of the pairs

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. Meghalaya is governed under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.
2. If there's a conflict between state laws and district council laws, district council laws prevail.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. Under Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, a person convicted of certain offenses is disqualified from contesting elections for the entire life.
2. As per Section 4 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, a person must be at least 25 years old to be eligible to contest elections to the Lok Sabha.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.9) There are different illustrations created for the different parts of the Indian Constitution. Who among the following was entrusted with creating the illustrations for the Indian Constitution?

- a) Abanindranath Tagore
- b) Nandalal Bose
- c) Rabindranath Tagore
- d) Raja Ravi Varma

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. The Lok Sabha currently allows proceedings to be conducted only in Hindi and English.
2. The Lok Sabha has extended translation services for all the 22 official languages.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.11) With reference to the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), how many of the following statements are correct?

1. It was established under the Government of India Act, 1919.
2. It examines audit reports submitted by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) of India after they are laid before Parliament.
3. It is composed of 20 members from Lok Sabha and 2 from Rajya Sabha.
4. A senior member of the ruling party chairs the Public Accounts Committee.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Q.12) Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Constitution mandates that the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Election Commissioners (ECs) be appointed by the President but allows Parliament to legislate on the appointment process.
2. Parliament's legislative powers can directly override decisions made by the Supreme Court.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

1. Article 356 of the Indian Constitution deals with the President's Rule.
2. Executive powers of the state government are affected during the imposition of President's Rule in a state.
3. The maximum initial period for which President's Rule can remain in force without parliamentary approval is one month.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.14) Consider the following statements:

1. Only the Parliament has the constitutional authority to remove a High Court judge.
2. Inefficiency and incompetence are the only grounds on which a High Court judge can be removed from office.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution allows for appointing ad-hoc judges in both the Supreme Court and High Courts.
2. The appointment of ad-hoc judges is same as the regular judges.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.16) Consider the following statements:

1. Article 19(1)(a) of the Indian Constitution guarantees the freedom of speech and expression.
2. Public security is one of the restrictions on freedom of speech and expression mentioned under Article 19(2) of the Indian Constitution.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.17) Which one of the following statements about the removal of the Chief Election Commissioner is correct?

- a) Can be removed by the President on recommendation of the Prime Minister
- b) Can be removed through a simple majority vote in Parliament
- c) Can only be removed through impeachment by Parliament
- d) Can be removed by the Supreme Court on grounds of proven misbehaviour

Q.18) Which of the following statements are correct regarding the differences between Furlough and Parole?

1. Parole is granted for specific reasons, such as a death in the family, while furlough is granted to break the monotony of imprisonment.
2. The period spent on furlough is counted as part of the sentence, whereas the period spent on parole is not.
3. Parole is considered a right of the prisoner, while furlough is a privilege granted upon request.
4. Furlough can be granted multiple times without limitations, while parole is limited to once or twice a year.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 2 and 4 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 3 and 4 only

Q.19) Consider the following statements:

1. Ad-hoc judges are retired High Court judges who are temporarily reappointed to help clear pending cases.
2. Ad-hoc judges must be part of a Bench led by a sitting judge.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.20) Which one of the following correctly describes the discretionary powers of the Governor concerning assent to Bills?

- a) The Governor must give assent to all Bills passed by the State Legislature.
- b) The Governor can withhold assent but cannot send a Bill for reconsideration.
- c) The Governor can reserve certain Bills for the President's consideration.
- d) The Governor has no role in the assent process and must follow the Chief Minister's advice.

Q.21) Which of the following are fundamental procedural rights that must be adhered to before any property acquisition, as per the recent Supreme Court judgment?

1. Right to Notice
2. Right to Fair Compensation
3. Right to Be Heard
4. Right to Select the Acquiring Agency
5. Right to Veto the Acquisition

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
- b) 2, 4 and 5 only
- c) 1, 3 and 5 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3 only

Q.22) Which one of the following best defines 'remission of sentence' in the Indian legal context?

- a) A complete cancellation of a convict's sentence.
- b) A reduction in the duration of a sentence without altering its nature or the conviction itself.
- c) A legal provision that allows courts to revoke a sentence if new evidence emerges.
- d) A temporary suspension of the sentence subject to the convict's behaviour.

Q.23) Under the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service, and Term of Office) Act, 2023, who comprises the selection committee for recommending the CEC and ECs to the President?

- a) Prime Minister, Chief Justice of India, and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha
- b) Prime Minister, Union Home Minister, and Chief Justice of India
- c) Prime Minister, a Union Cabinet Minister, and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha
- d) Prime Minister, a Union Cabinet Minister, and the Speaker of Lok Sabha.

Q.24) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The rarest of rare doctrine in India primarily applies to cases of extreme financial fraud leading to national economic instability.
- 2. The term 'rarest of rare' has not been clearly defined under any statute.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.25) Consider the following statements regarding the Lokpal:

- 1. It consists of a chairperson and 10 members.
- 2. The President of India appoints the Chairperson and Members of Lokpal.
- 3. The Prime Minister of India does not fall under the jurisdiction of Lokpal.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.26) Consider the following statements regarding the President's Rule:

- 1. During President's Rule, the Supreme Court takes over the High Court of the state.
- 2. The President's Rule must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament within two months by a simple majority; otherwise, it expires.
- 3. The President can revoke or modify the proclamation anytime.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 2 and 3 only

Q.27) Which one of the following statements best describes the term 'gag order'?

- a) A legal directive restricting individuals or media from publicly discussing details of an ongoing legal case.
- b) An order issued by the government to ban public protests and demonstrations.
- c) A directive allowing unrestricted media coverage of court proceedings.
- d) A law prohibiting judges from making public statements about their rulings.

Q.28) Consider the following statements:

1. The Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information by Public) Rules, 2009 allow the government to issue emergency orders to block content on social media, news websites, and streaming services.
 2. The government has the authority to block websites in cases related to India's sovereignty and integrity.
- Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.29) With reference to Zonal Councils in India, which of the following statements are correct?

1. It aims to facilitate economic planning and policy formulation for each state individually.
2. The States Reorganisation Act, 1956 established five Zonal Councils in India.
3. Each Zonal Council consists of the Chief Ministers of the member states.
4. Prime Minister of India is the Chairman of the Zonal Council.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- d) 2 and 3 only

Q.30) Consider the following statements:

1. Article 370 granted special autonomous status to Jammu & Kashmir, allowing it to have its own constitution and limited legislative powers.
2. The Instrument of Accession signed by Maharaja Hari Singh allowed India control over all the matters of Jammu & Kashmir.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.31) Consider the following statements:

1. State legislatures are constitutionally equal to Parliament within their respective domains.
2. In the context of the Simultaneous Elections Bill, shortening the tenure of State Assemblies will violate the Basic Structure Doctrine of the Constitution.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.32) Which one of the following best describes the primary function of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC)?

- a) Examining the financial policies of the government
- b) Scrutinizing the budget before its presentation in Parliament
- c) Auditing public expenditure to ensure it aligns with parliamentary grants
- d) Evaluating the impact of government schemes on economic growth

Q.33) With reference to the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992, consider the following statements:

1. It establishes Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) as a part of Directive Principles of State Policy.
2. It mandated one-third reservation for women in panchayats.
3. As per the 73rd Amendment, the Gram Sabha has the authority to dissolve a Panchayat.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 2 and 3 only

Q.34) Consider the following statements regarding the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC):

1. It provides financial grants to universities and colleges.
2. It has been established by the National Board of Accreditation (NBA).
3. A++ is the highest grade awarded by NAAC to an institution based on its assessment.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.35) Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution of India declares Hindi as the official language of the Union and the States.
2. The Constitution directs the Union to promote the spread of Hindi so that it can become a medium of expression for India's diverse culture.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.36) With reference to the safeguards provided by Indian laws for arresting women, consider the following statements:

1. Women cannot be arrested after sunset and before sunrise unless there are exceptional circumstances.
2. Indian law mandates that the arrest of a woman should be conducted by a male police officer in the presence of a female constable.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.37) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Goods and Services Tax (GST) officers have the same powers as the Enforcement Directorate (ED) under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

Statement-II: The GST officers are police officers and can arrest individuals based on suspicion.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Answer Key

1 - (b)	2 - (b)	3 - (c)	4 - (c)	5 - (a)	6 - (b)	7 - (a)	8 - (b)	9 - (b)	10 - (d)
11 - (b)	12 - (a)	13 - (a)	14 - (a)	15 - (a)	16 - (a)	17 - (c)	18 - (c)	19 - (c)	20 - (c)
21 - (d)	22 - (b)	23 - (c)	24 - (b)	25 - (a)	26 - (d)	27 - (a)	28 - (b)	29 - (d)	30 - (a)
31 - (c)	32 - (c)	33 - (b)	34 - (a)	35 - (b)	36 - (a)	37 - (c)			

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- **India** - India primarily follows the *Jus Sanguinis* principle, where citizenship is determined by the citizenship of parents, especially after amendments to the Citizenship Act, 1955.
- **Germany** - Germany also follows the *Jus Sanguinis* principle, where citizenship is based on descent from German parents rather than place of birth.
- **Canada** - Canada follows the *Jus Soli* (Right of Soil) principle, granting citizenship to anyone born on Canadian soil, regardless of their parents' citizenship.
- **United States** - The United States primarily follows the *Jus Soli* principle, granting citizenship to anyone born within its territory as per the 14th Amendment to its Constitution.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. AKFI is the central governing body responsible for regulating and promoting kabaddi in India. AKFI oversees and regulates various forms of kabaddi in India, including national and international tournaments.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The headquarters of AKFI is located in Jaipur.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The State Emblem of India is adapted from the Lion Capital of Ashoka, located at Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh. In the adopted version of the emblem, the bell-shaped lotus beneath the abacus has been omitted.
- Statements 2, 3 and 4 are correct. The State Emblem of India was officially adopted on 26th January 1950, the day India became a republic. The motto "Satyameva Jayate" (Truth Alone Triumphs) is inscribed in Devanagari script below the abacus of the Lion Capital. The use of the State Emblem is restricted to authorized government entities, as per the State Emblem of India (Prohibition of Improper Use) Act, 2005.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Motion of Thanks is a parliamentary procedure where members express gratitude for the President's Address, which outlines the government's policies and agenda. It is discussed and voted upon in both Houses of Parliament after the President's Address, as mandated under Article 87 of the Constitution. If the Motion of Thanks is defeated in the Lok Sabha, it amounts to a defeat of the government, as it reflects a lack of confidence in the ruling party. This could lead to the resignation of the government or a requirement to prove its majority through a confidence vote.

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. Ad-hoc judges are not restricted to hearing only criminal appeals. While the recent Supreme Court decision allowed retired judges to hear criminal appeals as part of a Bench led by a sitting judge, Article 224-A of the Constitution does not limit their jurisdiction to criminal cases. They can exercise the same jurisdiction and powers as regular High Court judges. The Supreme Court has relaxed this condition, allowing the appointment of ad-hoc judges even if vacancies do not exceed 20% of the sanctioned strength.
- Statement 2 is correct. Article 224-A specifies that the appointment of ad-hoc judges requires the consent of the retired judge and approval from the President of India. Till now, only three ad-hoc appointments have been made.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (B)
- Article 371 of the Indian Constitution is part of Part XXI, which contains special provisions for certain states in India. These provisions aim to address the unique cultural, economic, and administrative needs of specific regions, particularly those with tribal populations or distinct identities.
 - Article 371A applies to **Nagaland**, not Assam. It provides special provisions for Nagaland, safeguarding Naga customary laws, social practices, and land ownership rights.
 - Article 371C applies to **Manipur** and provides special provisions for the administration of its hill areas, including the creation of a committee in the Legislative Assembly to represent these areas.
 - Article 371G applies to **Mizoram** and ensures that no Act of Parliament will apply to the state regarding Mizo social practices, customary laws, and land ownership unless approved by the Mizoram Legislative Assembly.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (A)
- Statement 1 is correct. The state of Meghalaya is covered under the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution. This provides for autonomous governance through Autonomous District Councils (ADCs) to protect tribal interests and administer tribal areas.
 - Statement 2 is incorrect. Paragraph 12A of the Sixth Schedule specifies that in case of a conflict between state laws and district council laws, the state laws prevail. This provision ensures that state legislation overrides district council laws if there is any inconsistency.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statement 1 is incorrect. Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, specifies that a person convicted of certain offenses is disqualified from contesting elections for the duration of their prison sentence and an additional six years after their release.
 - Statement 2 is correct. Section 4 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, lays down that a person must be at least 25 years old to contest elections to the Lok Sabha (House of the People). This aligns with Article 84(b) of the Constitution of India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)
- The illustrations created by Nandalal Bose and his team for the Indian Constitution are a remarkable blend of art, history, and culture, showcasing India's rich heritage and diversity. These 22 unique hand-painted illustrations correspond to the 22 parts of the Constitution and represent different periods of Indian history, mythology, and geography.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (D)
- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. While Hindi and English are the primary languages for conducting business in the Lok Sabha as per Article 120 of the Constitution, members are

permitted to address the House in their mother tongue if they cannot adequately express themselves in Hindi or English, with prior permission from the Speaker. Translation services have been extended to 16 languages, including Hindi and English. These include Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, Manipuri, Urdu, and Sanskrit. Efforts are ongoing to extend services to all 22 languages listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution but have not yet been fully implemented.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) was established in 1921 as part of the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms under the Government of India Act, 1919. One of the primary functions of the PAC is to scrutinize the audit reports prepared by the C&AG and ensure that public funds are spent efficiently and for intended purposes.
- Statement 3 and 4 are incorrect. The PAC is composed of 22 members, with 15 members from the Lok Sabha and 7 members from the Rajya Sabha. Since 1967, the chairperson of the PAC has traditionally been a member of the opposition party, ensuring impartiality in its functioning.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Article 324(2) of the Indian Constitution states that the Election Commission shall consist of the CEC and such number of other Election Commissioners as the President may from time-to-time fix. The appointment of the CEC and other ECs shall, subject to the provisions of any law made in that behalf by Parliament, be made by the President. This implies that while the President appoints the CEC and ECs, Parliament has the authority to legislate on the appointment process.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. India follows a model of separation of powers among the legislative, executive, and judicial branches. While Parliament has the authority to legislate, its laws are subject to judicial review. The judiciary can strike down laws enacted by Parliament if they are found to be unconstitutional. Therefore, Parliament cannot override judicial decisions through legislation; instead, it can amend the law or the Constitution within the framework provided, but such amendments are also subject to judicial scrutiny.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Article 356 of the Indian Constitution deals with the imposition of President's Rule when the constitutional machinery in a state fails. During President's Rule, the executive powers of the state government are transferred to the President, who acts through the Governor. The state legislature may also be dissolved or suspended.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The maximum initial period for which President's Rule can remain in force without parliamentary approval is two months.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The removal of a High Court judge can only be initiated through a motion passed by both Houses of Parliament with a special majority, as per Articles 124(4) and 217 of the Constitution. The President issues the removal order based on this parliamentary process.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The grounds for removing a High Court judge are "proved misbehaviour" or "incapacity", as outlined in the Constitution.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Constitution provides for the appointment of ad-hoc judges in both the Supreme Court (under Article 127) and High Courts (under Article 224A). These provisions allow for temporary appointments to address specific needs.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. Ad-hoc judges are appointed temporarily and do not hold the same status as regular judges. While they have similar powers and jurisdiction during their tenure, their appointment process, tenure, and terms differ from those of regular judges.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Article 19(1)(a) guarantees all citizens of India the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression. This right is essential for the functioning of a democracy, allowing individuals to express their opinions freely.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The term "public security" is not explicitly mentioned in Article 19(2). Instead, Article 19(2) provides for reasonable restrictions on freedom of speech and expression based on grounds such as: Security of the state, Sovereignty and integrity of India, Public order, Decency or morality, Contempt of court, Defamation, etc.

Source: [AIR](#)

17. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India can only be removed from office in the same manner and on the same grounds as a judge of the Supreme Court. This involves a process of impeachment, which requires: A resolution passed by both Houses of Parliament with a special majority (two-thirds of the members present and voting, supported by more than 50% of the total strength of the House) and Grounds for removal include proven misbehavior or incapacity.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

18. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Parole is granted for specific emergencies or humanitarian reasons, such as a death or illness in the family. Furlough, on the other hand, is granted periodically to allow prisoners to maintain social ties and relieve the monotony of prison life. The time spent on furlough is considered part of the prison sentence, while the time spent on parole is not.
- Statement 3 and 4 are incorrect. Parole is a privilege granted based on good behavior and circumstances rather than an automatic right. Similarly, furlough is also a privilege, though it serves a different purpose. Furlough is subject to restrictions, including the number of times it can be granted, while parole may also have frequency limits depending on legal provisions.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

19. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Ad-hoc judges are retired High Court judges who are temporarily reappointed under Article 224A of the Indian Constitution to help clear the backlog of pending cases. They are appointed for a limited period and have the same powers as sitting judges during their tenure. Ad-hoc judges must be part of a Bench led by a sitting judge, as per guidelines issued by the Supreme Court to ensure proper functioning and oversight in decision-making.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

20. Correct Answer is (C)

- Under Article 200 of the Indian Constitution, the Governor has the discretion to reserve a Bill for the President's consideration if it is deemed to be in conflict with the Constitution or affects the powers of the Union.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

21. Correct Answer is (D)

- The SC judgment outlined seven fundamental procedural rights that must be adhered to before any property acquisition is deemed valid:
- **Right to Notice:** The State must inform the property owner about its intent to acquire the land.
- **Right to be Heard:** The owner must be given an opportunity to raise objections.
- **Right to a Reasoned Decision:** The State must provide a detailed explanation for the acquisition.

- **Acquisition Only for Public Purpose:** The government must demonstrate that the acquisition serves a public purpose.
- **Right to Fair Compensation:** The owner is entitled to just and adequate compensation.
- **Right to Efficient Conduct:** The process must be completed within the prescribed timeline.
- **Right to Conclusion:** The acquisition process must lead to a legally valid conclusion.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

22. Correct Answer is (B)

- In the Indian legal context, remission of sentence refers to a reduction in the length of a convict's sentence while keeping the conviction and the nature of the punishment unchanged.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (C)

- Under the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service, and Term of Office) Act, 2023, the selection committee for recommending the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Election Commissioners (ECs) to the President comprises: The Prime Minister, A Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister, and the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha (or leader of the largest opposition party if there is no formal Leader of Opposition).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The rarest of rare doctrine in India is specifically applied in cases involving the death penalty, not financial crimes. It is used to determine whether a crime is so heinous, brutal, or shocking to society's conscience that the death penalty is warranted.
- Statement 2 is correct. The rarest of rare doctrine was established by judicial interpretation in cases like Bachan Singh v. State of Punjab (1980) and Machhi Singh v. State of Punjab (1983). It does not have a statutory definition under any law.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The Lokpal consists of a chairperson and a maximum of 8 members, not 10. Out of these, at least 50% must be judicial members, and at least 50% must belong to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, minorities, or women. The Prime Minister falls under the jurisdiction of Lokpal. However, this is subject to certain exceptions, such as allegations related to international relations, security, public order, atomic energy, and space.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Chairperson and Members of Lokpal are appointed by the President of India based on the recommendations of a Selection Committee. This committee includes the Prime Minister (as Chairperson), Speaker of Lok Sabha, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, Chief Justice of India (or a nominated Supreme Court judge), and an eminent jurist.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. During President's Rule, the judiciary, including the High Court, remains independent and continues to function as usual. The Supreme Court does not assume control over the High Court. Judicial independence is maintained even under President's Rule to safeguard constitutional rights.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Under Article 356, a proclamation of President's Rule must be approved by both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha within two months by a simple majority (i.e., a majority of members present and voting). If not approved, the proclamation ceases to operate. The President has the authority to revoke or modify a proclamation of President's Rule at any time through a subsequent proclamation. This does not require parliamentary approval.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (A)

- A gag order is a legal directive issued by a court or authority to restrict individuals, such as lawyers, parties involved in a case, or the media, from publicly disclosing or discussing details of an ongoing legal case. This is done to ensure a fair trial, protect sensitive information, and avoid undue influence on public opinion or jurors.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information by Public) Rules, 2009 govern the blocking of entire websites by the government. However, the authority to issue emergency content blocking orders on social media, news websites, and streaming services falls under the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.
- Statement 2 is correct. The government has the authority to block websites under Section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000, which allows blocking in the interest of India's sovereignty and integrity, national security, public order, and friendly relations with foreign states.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 4 are incorrect. Zonal Councils are not focused on individual state economic planning. Instead, they aim to promote cooperation, coordination, and resolution of inter-state disputes, fostering regional development and effective governance among member states. The Union Home Minister is the Chairman of all Zonal Councils, while the Chief Ministers of member states act as Vice-Chairmen on a rotational basis for one year at a time.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Zonal Councils were established under Part-III of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956. These councils include the Northern, Central, Southern, Eastern, and Western Zonal Councils. Each Zonal Council includes the Chief Ministers of the member states as members, along with two other ministers nominated by the Governor of each state.

Source: [AIR](#)

30. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Article 370 provided Jammu & Kashmir with special constitutional status, allowing it to have its own constitution and significant autonomy in governance. The Indian Parliament's legislative powers over J&K were limited to three subjects: defense, external affairs, and communications, as per the Instrument of Accession. Any extension of additional central laws required the concurrence of the J&K government.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Instrument of Accession signed by Maharaja Hari Singh on October 26, 1947, granted India jurisdiction only over three subjects: defense, external affairs, and communications. All other matters remained under the control of the state government unless explicitly agreed upon later.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. State legislatures and Parliament are separate but equal entities within their respective domains under India's federal structure. While Parliament legislates on Union List subjects, state legislatures legislate on State List subjects, as outlined in the Constitution. Both bodies are fundamental to India's federal governance and operate independently within their jurisdictions. The Basic Structure Doctrine, established in the Kesavananda Bharati judgment, protects fundamental principles of the Constitution, such as democracy and federalism. Shortening the tenure of State Assemblies to align elections with Lok Sabha polls undermines their democratic mandate and autonomy, which are core elements of federalism and democracy.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (C)

- The primary function of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) is to examine the audit reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) after they are presented in Parliament. The PAC ensures that public funds granted by Parliament are spent by the government within the scope of the approved demands and in accordance with legal and financial propriety. It scrutinizes cases of excess expenditure, financial irregularities, and the overall economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of public spending.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. While Article 40 of the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) originally directed states to organize village panchayats, the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act gave PRIs constitutional status, moving them beyond just a directive principle. The Gram Sabha does not have the authority to dissolve a Panchayat. Panchayats are given a fixed five-year tenure under Article 243E, and dissolution is governed by state legislation, not by the Gram Sabha.
- Statement 2 is correct. The 73rd Amendment Act mandated the reservation of one-third of seats for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions, including the positions of chairpersons at all levels.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) does not provide financial grants. Instead, it assesses and accredits higher education institutions. Financial grants are provided by the University Grants Commission (UGC), often based on NAAC accreditation status. NAAC was established in 1994 by the University Grants Commission (UGC). The NBA is a separate body that accredits technical programs, while NAAC focuses on institutional accreditation.
- Statement 3 is correct. A++ is the highest grade awarded by NAAC to institutions with a CGPA between 3.51 and 4.00 on its grading scale.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Constitution of India, under Article 343, declares Hindi in Devanagari script as the official language of the Union, not the States. States have the freedom to choose their own official languages based on their linguistic preferences (Article 345).
- Statement 2 is correct. Under Article 351, the Constitution mandates that the Union must promote the spread and development of Hindi to serve as a medium of expression for India's composite culture. It also emphasizes enriching Hindi by assimilating elements from other Indian languages.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

36. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Section 46(4) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) and its corresponding provision in the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, states that women cannot be arrested during this time period unless there are exceptional circumstances. In such cases, prior written permission from a magistrate is required, and the arrest must be conducted by a woman police officer.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Indian law does not mandate that a male police officer must arrest a woman. Instead, it specifies that arrests of women should generally be conducted by female police officers. If circumstances require otherwise, male officers may arrest a woman, but they must not touch her unless absolutely necessary.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

37. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement I is correct. The Supreme Court ruled that GST officers must follow a "higher threshold" before making an arrest, similar to Enforcement Directorate (ED) officers under the Prevention of

Money Laundering Act (PMLA). This means they must have a "reason to believe" that an offence has been committed rather than acting on mere suspicion. GST officers have the same powers as the ED under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

- Statement II is incorrect. The Supreme Court clarified that GST officers are not police officers and cannot arrest individuals based on suspicion like police officers under Section 41 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC). Instead, they must meet a stricter standard before making arrests.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Acts & Policies

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the Aadhaar Authentication for Good Governance Amendment Rules, 2025:

1. It restricts the Aadhaar authentication to government entities and select sectors like banking and telecom.
2. Aadhaar authentication remains voluntary for individuals, ensuring compliance with the Supreme Court's privacy directives.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.2) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyaan (PM-JANMAN), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to improve the socio-economic conditions of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).
2. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is the nodal ministry for implementing PM-JANMAN.
3. Smart City Mission is a key component of PM-JANMAN's housing initiative.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.3) With reference to the Gyan Bharatam Mission, consider the following statements:

1. It seeks to boost tourism through the conservation and promotion of culturally significant heritage sites.
2. National Digital Repository of Indian Knowledge Systems was announced alongside the Gyan Bharatam Mission.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.4) Which one of the following is the primary objective of the Jan Vishwas Bill 2.0?

- a) Increase criminal penalties for business violations
- b) Introduce new regulations for startups
- c) Centralize all business registrations
- d) Decriminalize minor offenses and promote ease of doing business

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding the Mission for Cotton Productivity, recently announced in the Union Budget 2025-26:

1. The mission aims to boost cotton production by introducing new technologies to counter declining yields and climate challenges.
2. The mission focuses on promoting short staple cotton varieties to enhance quality and reduce imports.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the Samudrayaan Mission:

1. It is India's first manned deep ocean mission aimed at exploring the deep sea and its resources.
2. The Mission is being developed by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC).
3. The deep-sea vehicle being developed for the Mission is named Samudrayan-40.
4. It will establish India's presence in deep-sea mineral exploration.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 4 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1 and 4 only

Q.7) With reference to the National Policy on Disaster Management (NPDM), consider the following statements:

1. Under the NPDM, disaster management is primarily the responsibility of State governments.
2. As per the NPDM, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) is chaired by the Prime Minister of India.
3. The National Disaster Management Plan is aligned with Geneva Convention.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 1 and 3 only

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding the NIPUN Bharat Mission (National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy):

1. It aims to promote digital education across schools in India.
2. It is implemented under the centrally sponsored Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan scheme.
3. It is part of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.9) Consider the following:

1. Waste segregation
2. Air quality
3. Food systems
4. Carbon footprint
5. Soil erosion

How many of the above are the focus areas under environmental audits of Green Schools Programme (GSP)?

- a) Only two
- b) Only three
- c) Only four
- d) All five

Q.10) With reference to the National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD), consider the following statements:

1. The scheme aims to organize a series of cultural festivals across India, highlighting the nation's rich diversity and heritage.
2. It is a Centrally sponsored scheme with 100% funding from the Government of India.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.11) Consider the following statements with respect to the Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY):

1. PM-AJAY aims to ensure the holistic development of Scheduled Caste communities by addressing their socio-economic and infrastructural needs.
2. The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development.
3. 'Model Villages' under PM-AJAY aim to promote tourism in SC-majority rural India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.12) Which one of the following is the name of the digital repository created by National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) to store digitized manuscripts?

- a) Bharat Manuscript Archive
- b) National Digital Manuscripts Library
- c) Manus Granth Digital Repository
- d) Kriti Sampada

Q.13) With reference to the National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013, consider the following statements:

1. It is also known as the Right to Food Act.
2. It mandates the establishment of a District Legal Services Authority to hear appeals and address grievances related to the implementation of the Act at the district level.
3. The 'One Nation, One Ration Card' scheme enables NFSA beneficiaries to claim their food entitlements from any fair price shop in the country.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.14) Consider the following statements:

1. Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) aims to promote organic farming practices across India.
2. Under PMMSY, women, SC/ST categories receive up to 60% financial assistance for beneficiary-oriented projects.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.15) Consider the following statements regarding the Mission Amrit Sarovar:

1. It aims to conserve water for the future by developing and rejuvenating 75 water bodies in each district of India.
2. It commemorates the launch of the Jal Jeevan Mission.
3. It ensures that local communities are involved in the construction and maintenance of water bodies.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.16) With reference to the Immigration and Foreigners Bill 2025, consider the following statements:

1. The Bill places the burden of proof on individuals to demonstrate that they are not foreign nationals if questioned.
2. It reduces the number of visa categories available to foreign nationals and simplifies the process for obtaining Indian citizenship.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.17) With reference to the recent amendments to the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations (TCCCPR) 2018, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to strengthen consumer protection against unsolicited commercial communication (UCC).
2. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is the regulatory authority responsible for enforcing the TCCCPR, 2018 and its amendments.
3. Consumer can now identify different types of commercial messages by analyzing the content and context of the messages.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.18) The primary aim of the 'SAMVAD Programme' is to:

- a) Provide financial assistance to children from economically weaker sections.
- b) Offer mental health outreach and psychosocial care to children in vulnerable circumstances.
- c) Facilitate educational scholarships for meritorious students.
- d) Promote sports and extracurricular activities among adolescents.

Q.19) With reference to the Ayushman Bharat Vay Vandana Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to provide social security to elderly citizens by ensuring a guaranteed return on their investment.
2. The scheme is available to all senior citizens aged 70 years and above.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.20) The primary objective of the GARBH-INi-DRISHTI program is to:

- a) Increase fertility rates in India
- b) Predict and prevent preterm birth
- c) Provide subsidies for maternal healthcare
- d) Reduce maternal mortality rates

Q.21) Consider the following statements regarding the Gyan Bharatam Mission:

1. It aims to digitize and preserve India's traditional knowledge systems and make them accessible to a global audience.
2. AI technologies are employed in the Mission to assist in generating new content based on ancient knowledge systems.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.22) With reference to the Nuclear Mission, recently announced in the Union Budget 2025-26, consider the following statements:

1. It focuses on the development of Fast Breeder Reactors as part of India's strategy to advance clean and efficient nuclear energy technologies.
2. It aims to expand the country's nuclear energy capacity to 100 GW by 2047.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.23) Consider the following statements:

1. The Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) aims to provide universal access to quality education for children from pre-school to class XII.
2. SSA also provides secondary education scholarships to the deserving students.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.24) With reference to the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act 2012, which of the following statements are correct?

1. It aims to protect children from sexual offences and ensure their well-being.
2. It applies only to male offenders.
3. Under the Act, any sexual act involving a person below 18 years is considered an offence, regardless of consent.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.25) With reference to the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules 2021, consider the following statements:

1. It establishes three-tier grievance redressal mechanism.
2. Intermediaries are mandated to resolve user grievances within 15 days from the date of receipt.
3. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology is responsible for overseeing the digital media.
4. Publishers of news and current affairs content operating in the territory of India must register with the Press Council of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 4 only
- b) 1, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 2 and 4 only

Q.26) The primary objective of the School of Ultimate Leadership (SOUL) is to:

- a) Regulate international maritime trade.
- b) Provide training for competitive examinations.
- c) Cultivate ethical and effective leadership across various sectors.
- d) Oversee the construction of educational institutions.

Q.27) Consider the following statements regarding the Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs):

1. It aims to offer quality education to Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in remote areas.
2. These school are funded through public-private partnerships.
3. The scheme was launched under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.28) "Kota Cares" initiative, seen in the news recently, aims to:

- a) Establish Kota as a global hub for technology startups.
- b) Provide financial subsidies to coaching institutes in Kota.
- c) Improve student welfare and well-being in Kota through community-driven support.
- d) Support local artisans in Kota by providing them with marketing platforms.

Q.29) With reference to the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, consider the following statements:

1. It does not impose any particular language on any state.
2. It states all the three languages taught in schools must be Indian languages.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.30) With reference to the North East Transformative Industrialisation Scheme (UNNATI), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to develop urban infrastructure in state capitals of the northeastern states.
2. North-Eastern Development Financial Corporation Ltd. (NEDFi) is responsible for disbursing incentives under the scheme.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.31) With reference to the National Natural Farming Mission (NNFM), consider the following statements:

1. It encourages chemical-free and sustainable farming practices.
2. It aims to upscale the vertical farming to promote natural farming practices nationwide.
3. A five-kilometre-wide belt along the Ganga River has been prioritized under NMNF for promoting natural farming practices.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.32) Consider the following statements regarding the draft rules for the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023:

1. It aims to balance privacy rights and the need for lawful data processing.
2. It mandates that a guardian's consent is needed only for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) who cannot make legally binding decisions.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer Key

1 – (b)	2 – (a)	3 – (b)	4 – (d)	5 – (a)	6 – (d)	7 – (c)	8 – (a)
9 – (b)	10 – (b)	11 – (a)	12 – (d)	13 – (b)	14 – (b)	15 – (c)	16 – (a)
17 – (a)	18 – (b)	19 – (b)	20 – (b)	21 – (a)	22 – (b)	23 – (a)	24 – (c)
25 – (c)	26 – (c)	27 – (a)	28 – (c)	29 – (a)	30 – (b)	31 – (c)	32 – (c)

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)
 - Statement 1 is incorrect. The Aadhaar Authentication for Good Governance Amendment Rules, 2025 expands the scope of Aadhaar authentication beyond government entities and select sectors. The new rules allow private entities to use Aadhaar authentication for service delivery, provided they follow a specific approval process. This is a significant change from the previous restrictions.
 - Statement 2 is correct. The amendment maintains the voluntary nature of Aadhaar authentication for individuals. This aspect aligns with the Supreme Court's directives on privacy and ensures that individuals have the choice to use Aadhaar for authentication or not.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (A)
 - Statement 1 is correct. PM-JANMAN specifically targets 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) to achieve 100% saturation of basic amenities (housing, water, roads, healthcare, education) in their habitations by 2026.
 - Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal agency for PM-JANMAN. PM-JANMAN's housing component is linked to PMAY-Gramin (Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana), not the Smart City Mission.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)
 - Statement 1 is incorrect. The Gyan Bharatam Mission focuses on the survey, documentation, and conservation of India's manuscript heritage, not on boosting tourism or promoting heritage sites. The mission is seen as a revitalization of the existing National Manuscripts Mission (NMM), which was established in 2003 but had not achieved its full potential.
 - Statement 2 is correct. A key component of the Gyan Bharatam Mission is the establishment of a National Digital Repository of Indian Knowledge Systems, which will digitize and centralize traditional knowledge, making it accessible to researchers, students, and institutions worldwide. The mission supports the government's efforts under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (D)
 - The primary objective of the Jan Vishwas Bill 2.0 is to decriminalize outdated and minor offenses, replacing them with civil penalties or administrative actions, and to simplify India's legal framework to enhance the ease of doing business.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)
 - Statement 1 is correct. The Mission for Cotton Productivity, as announced in the Union Budget 2025-26, focuses on improving cotton productivity through advanced technologies and scientific support. It specifically addresses challenges like declining yields, stagnant production, and climate-related issues.
 - Statement 2 is incorrect. The mission primarily promotes extra-long staple (ELS) cotton varieties, which are used for high-end textiles and have significant export potential. This focus aims to reduce India's dependence on ELS cotton imports while enhancing the overall quality of cotton production.

Source: [AIR](#)

6. Correct Answer is (D)
 - Statements 1 and 4 are correct. The Samudrayaan Mission is India's first manned deep-sea exploration initiative, aiming to explore the ocean floor at depths of up to 6,000 meters for resources like polymetallic nodules and biodiversity. One of the key objectives of the mission is to explore and harness deep-sea resources, such as polymetallic nodules, which contain valuable metals like manganese, nickel, cobalt, and copper.
 - Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The mission is being spearheaded by the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES). The submersible being developed for the mission is called Matsya 6000.

Source: [AIR](#)

7. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The NPDM specifies that disaster management is primarily the responsibility of State governments, which undertake relief and response measures using the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). The central government supplements these efforts through financial and logistical support and provides additional assistance from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) in severe cases. The NDMA, established under the Disaster Management Act of 2005, is the apex body for disaster management in India, and it is chaired by the Prime Minister of India.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP) is aligned with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015–2030.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (A)
- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The primary goal of the NIPUN Bharat Mission is to ensure foundational literacy and numeracy (FLN) for children up to Grade 3 by 2026-27. The NIPUN Bharat Mission is implemented under the Samagra Shiksha Scheme.
 - Statement 3 is correct. The NIPUN Bharat Mission is a component of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which prioritizes achieving foundational literacy and numeracy for all children.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)
- The Green Schools Programme (GSP), launched by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) in 2005, is an environmental education initiative aimed at sensitizing students to environmental issues through hands-on activities and practical solutions. Schools conduct self-audits of their resource management practices with CSE's guidance. The audits focus on six key areas: water management, energy efficiency, waste segregation, air quality, biodiversity, and food systems. Schools that excel in implementing sustainable practices are awarded Green School Ratings annually. Recently, PM Shri Government Senior Secondary School Namchi, Sikkim, is the only educational institution to receive a Green School Rating from the entire Northeastern states.

Source: [AIR](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statement 1 is incorrect. The National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) focuses on the holistic development of identified pilgrimage destinations across India, aiming to enhance the religious tourism experience.
 - Statement 2 is correct. PRASHAD is a Centrally sponsored scheme with 100% funding from the Government of India. The central government provides financial assistance to state governments and other implementing agencies for developing and improving infrastructure and facilities at pilgrimage sites.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (A)
- Statement 1 is correct. The primary objective of PM-AJAY is to ensure the socio-economic upliftment and holistic development of Scheduled Caste (SC) communities. It focuses on improving infrastructure, education, health, and livelihood opportunities in SC-majority areas.
 - Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. PM-AJAY is implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The Model Villages (Adarsh Grams) under PM-AJAY are aimed at addressing basic needs such as food security, education, health, sanitation, and livelihood for SC-majority villages.

Source: [AIR](#)

12. Correct Answer is (D)
- The National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) has created a digital repository called "Kriti Sampada", which serves as the National Database of Manuscripts. This repository is an electronic

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archive that provides access to digitized manuscripts and metadata, making it easier for researchers and the public to study India's manuscript heritage.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013, is often referred to as the Right to Food Act because it provides legal entitlements for subsidized food grains to ensure food and nutritional security for eligible households. The 'One Nation, One Ration Card' (ONORC) scheme ensures portability of ration cards, allowing NFSA beneficiaries, especially migrants, to access their entitled subsidized food grains from any fair price shop across India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The NFSA mandates the appointment of a District Grievance Redressal Officer (DGRO) for addressing grievances related to its implementation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. PMMSY focuses on the sustainable and responsible development of the fisheries sector to usher in a 'Blue Revolution'. Its primary aim is to enhance fish production, productivity, and value-chain development.
- Statement 2 is correct. Under PMMSY, financial assistance for beneficiary-oriented projects is up to 60% of the project cost for women, SC/ST categories.

Source: [AIR](#)

15. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Mission Amrit Sarovar, launched on April 24, 2022, under the "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav," aims to construct or rejuvenate 75 water bodies in each district across India, with a total target of 50,000 ponds nationwide. The mission focuses on addressing water scarcity and ensuring sustainable water resources for the future. The mission emphasizes community participation (Jan Bhagidaari) by involving local stakeholders, user groups, freedom fighters, and other citizens in the development and maintenance of Amrit Sarovars.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, celebrating 75 years of India's independence, not to commemorate the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Source: [DD News](#)

16. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. According to the provisions of the Immigration and Foreigners Bill, 2025, individuals are required to provide proof that they are not foreign nationals if their status is questioned by authorities.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Bill does not propose reducing visa categories or simplifying the process for obtaining Indian citizenship. Instead, it focuses on streamlining visa regulations, improving foreigner registration processes, and imposing stricter penalties for violations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The recent amendments to the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations (TCCCPR), 2018, introduced by TRAI on February 12, 2025, aim to combat unsolicited commercial communications (UCC) and protect consumers from spam calls and messages. The regulations also promote a transparent and consumer-friendly telecom ecosystem. TRAI is the regulatory authority that enforces the TCCCPR, 2018, and its amendments. It ensures compliance with the regulations by telecom operators and telemarketers.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. TRAI has mandated standardized message headers for easy identification:
- "-P" for promotional messages.

- "-S" for service-related messages.
- "-T" for transactional messages.
- "-G" for government communications

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (B)

- The SAMVAD Programme primarily focuses on addressing the mental health and psychosocial challenges faced by children in vulnerable situations, such as those who are abandoned, orphaned, trafficked, or in conflict with the law. It aims to enhance their well-being through advocacy, support, and specialized interventions. National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) leads the implementation of the SAMVAD programme. Ministry of Women and Child Development is responsible for funding the SAMVAD programme.

Source: [AIR](#)

19. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Ayushman Bharat Vay Vandana Scheme (commonly referred to as the Ayushman Vaya Vandana Card initiative) is a healthcare program launched under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY). It focuses on providing free healthcare coverage for senior citizens aged 70 years and above.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Ayushman Bharat Vay Vandana Scheme was launched in October 2024 as part of the Ayushman Bharat initiative. It provides free healthcare benefits worth ₹5 lakh annually to all senior citizens aged 70 years and above, irrespective of their socio-economic status. The scheme ensures universal access to healthcare services for this age group.

Source: [AIR](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

- The GARBH-INi-DRISHTI program, developed under the GARBH-INi initiative by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), focuses on maternal and child health. Its primary goal is to predict and prevent preterm births through research, data-driven insights, and the development of predictive tools. It is one of the largest maternal and child health databases in South Asia. The GARBH-INi-DRISHTI project is led by the Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI).

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

21. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Gyan Bharatam Mission focuses on the survey, documentation, conservation, and digitization of India's vast manuscript heritage. It aims to create a National Digital Repository of Indian Knowledge Systems, making ancient manuscripts accessible globally for research, education, and public knowledge.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. AI technologies are employed in the Gyan Bharatam Mission to assist in cataloging, organizing, and making the digitized content more accessible and searchable.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

22. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Nuclear Energy Mission, in the Union Budget 2025-26, emphasizes the development of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) rather than Fast Breeder Reactors. The government has allocated ₹20,000 crore for research and development in SMRs, targeting at least five indigenously designed operational SMRs by 2033.
- Statement 2 is correct. The mission sets an ambitious target to expand India's nuclear power capacity to 100 GW by 2047, positioning nuclear energy as a cornerstone of the country's energy mix.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

23. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is a flagship program launched in 2018 that integrates three schemes—Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), and Teacher Education (TE). It aims to provide inclusive and equitable quality education from pre-school to Class XII, ensuring universal access, retention, and improved learning outcomes.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. SSA primarily supports infrastructure development, teacher training, digital initiatives, and vocational education but does not include scholarships as a direct component.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, was enacted to safeguard children from sexual assault, harassment, and exploitation. It provides a robust legal framework to ensure the safety and well-being of children during judicial processes. The POCSO Act defines a child as anyone below 18 years of age and criminalizes any sexual activity involving minors, irrespective of consent. This is based on the legal presumption that minors cannot give valid consent due to their age.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The POCSO Act is gender-neutral. It applies to all offenders, regardless of gender, and protects all children (male, female, or others) under the age of 18 from sexual offences.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The IT Rules, 2021 mandate a three-tier grievance redressal mechanism for digital media and OTT platforms: Level I: Self-regulation by the publisher; Level II: Self-regulatory body of publishers; Level III: Oversight by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB). As per the IT Rules, intermediaries must acknowledge complaints within 24 hours and resolve them within 15 days.
- Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) oversees social media intermediaries, while the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) oversees digital media and OTT platforms. Digital news publishers are not required to register with the Press Council of India. Instead, they must furnish information about their operations to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (C)

- SOUL focuses on nurturing leaders with integrity, excellence, and altruism to address complex challenges in governance, business, public policy, and social service. It aims to develop leaders who can contribute to societal progress and India's development. The School of Ultimate Leadership (SOUL) is an emerging institution in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, dedicated to cultivating ethical and effective leadership across various sectors.

Source: [AIR](#)

27. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. EMRSs are designed to provide high-quality education to ST students in remote tribal areas, enabling them to access opportunities at par with the general population. The scheme focuses on bridging the educational gap and promoting holistic development.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. EMRSs are fully funded by the Central Government under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, with additional support from state governments. Funding is provided through grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution. The EMRS scheme was introduced in 1997-98 as a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (C)

- The "Kota Cares" initiative is a community-driven effort launched by the Kota District Administration and the Kota Students Welfare Society (KSWS) to redefine student welfare and support in the city. It focuses on creating a supportive environment for students, addressing their mental health, and ensuring their overall well-being.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. NEP 2020 upholds linguistic freedom and ensures that no language is imposed on any state or community. It allows states, regions, and students to choose the languages they wish to learn, promoting flexibility in implementation while respecting India's linguistic diversity.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. NEP 2020 emphasizes the three-language formula, where at least two of the three languages must be Indian languages, but the third language can be English or another foreign language. This approach promotes multilingualism while ensuring flexibility for students and states to select their preferred languages.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The UNNATI scheme is primarily focused on fostering industrial growth, generating employment, and promoting sustainable development in the manufacturing and service sectors across the northeastern region. While it supports industrial infrastructure development, it does not specifically target urban infrastructure in state capitals.
- Statement 2 is correct. NEDFi has been designated as the nodal agency for disbursing incentives under various components of the UNNATI scheme. It facilitates financial assistance and ensures smooth implementation through e-transfers to eligible units.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. NMNF promotes natural farming, which is a chemical-free and sustainable agricultural practice based on locally available resources, livestock integration, and traditional methods. NMNF has prioritized areas within a 5-kilometer corridor along the Ganga River under the Namami Gange scheme for promoting natural farming.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. NMNF focuses on natural farming practices like biomass recycling, use of cow dung-urine formulations, and multi-cropping systems. It does not specifically aim to promote vertical farming.

Source: [AIR](#)

32. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023, aims to strike a balance between protecting individuals' privacy rights and enabling lawful data processing for legitimate purposes. The draft rules specify that a guardian's consent is only required for PwDs who cannot make legally binding decisions, rather than all PwDs.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Index & Reports

Q.1) Which one of the following organizations publishes Climate Risk Index (CRI)?

- a) United Nations Environment Programme
- b) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- c) World Meteorological Organization
- d) Germanwatch

Q.2) World Social Protection Report' is published by:

- a) International Labour Organization (ILO)
- b) World Health Organization (WHO)
- c) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- d) International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The "One Nation-One Port Process" (ONOP) initiative aims to merge all port authorities into a single entity.
- 2. The Sagar Ankalan – Logistics Port Performance Index (LPPI) aims to enhance the efficiency, competitiveness, and sustainability of Indian ports.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer Key

1 – (d)	2 – (a)	3 – (b)
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Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Climate Risk Index (CRI) is an annual report published by the environmental organization Germanwatch. It evaluates the impact of extreme weather events globally and ranks countries based on their vulnerability to climate-related disasters. The CRI aims to highlight countries that are most affected by extreme weather and emphasize the need for stronger climate policies and disaster preparedness. In the CRI 2025, India ranked 6th globally among nations worst hit by climate disasters. India accounted for 10% of global fatalities from extreme weather events. India contributed 4.2% of global economic losses.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

2. Correct Answer is (A)

- The World Social Protection Report is a flagship publication of the International Labour Organization (ILO). It provides a global overview of developments in social protection systems, including coverage, benefits, and public expenditures, and highlights progress toward achieving universal social protection.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The ONOP initiative focuses on standardizing and streamlining operations across India's major ports to eliminate inefficiencies, reduce costs, and minimize operational delays by harmonizing documentation and processes.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Sagar Ankalan LPPI evaluates the performance of Indian ports based on metrics like cargo handling, turnaround time, and berth idle time. Its goal is to improve port efficiency, competitiveness, and sustainability while aligning with global benchmarks.

Source: [AIR](#)

International Relations/Organizations

Q.1) With reference to the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), how many of the following statements are correct?

1. Eastern and Northern corridors form the backbone of IMEC.
2. Mundra port is directly linked to IMEC's Eastern Corridor.
3. Oil pipeline is a major component of the IMEC.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.2) The OECD Global Tax Deal primarily aims to address which one of the following challenges in international taxation?

- a) Ensuring all countries adopt the same tax rate
- b) Preventing the use of transfer pricing and digital taxes
- c) Combating profit shifting and tax base erosion by multinational enterprises (MNEs)
- d) Increasing tax rates for all businesses worldwide

Q.3) With reference to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), consider the following statements:

1. It is a Eurasian intergovernmental organization.
2. India and Pakistan are members of the SCO.
3. English and French are the official languages of the SCO.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC):

1. It is designed to develop a free trade agreement between India and the European Union.
2. It combines sea and rail transport to reduce transit time and costs.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.5) Which one of the following initiatives, supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), aims to promote global agricultural development and combat hunger?

- a) Feed the Future
- b) Global Health Initiative
- c) Green Energy Initiative
- d) Global Trade Promotion Program

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the Chabahar Port:

1. It is located on the Gulf of Oman.
2. It is closer to Indian territory than Gwadar Port.
3. It serves as a military base for Indian troops in Afghanistan.
4. It is part of the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Q.7) Which one of the following is NOT a function of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)?

- a) Appointing the Secretary-General
- b) Electing members of the Security Council
- c) Vetoing resolutions of the Security Council
- d) Considering reports from other UN organs

Q.8) Two-state solution', often seen in the news, aims to:

- a) Resolve the conflict between North Korea and South Korea
- b) Establish separate nations for the Kurds and Yazidis
- c) Create independent states of Israel and Palestine
- d) Establish two separate governments within Israel

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the International Criminal Court (ICC):

1. The ICC is a judicial organ of the United Nations.
2. Only countries that are parties to the Rome Statute fall under its jurisdiction.
3. The ICC is required to consult the International Court of Justice before proceeding with a case.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.10) Which one of the following is a key objective of the AI Action Summit 2025?

- a) Banning open-source AI development globally
- b) Promoting equitable access to safe and sustainable AI
- c) Establishing a global regulatory authority for AI
- d) Prioritizing military applications of AI

Q.11) Which one of the following is the primary objective of the 'Defence Partnership-India' (DP-I) initiative launched between India and the United Kingdom?

- a) It aims to establish a joint military base in the Indian Ocean.
- b) It aims to enhance collaboration in defence manufacturing and technology transfer.
- c) It aims to conduct annual joint military exercises.
- d) It aims to develop a shared intelligence network for counter-terrorism.

Q.12) Which one of the following statements is correct regarding the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP)?

- a) It is a reciprocal trade agreement providing tariff benefits to all World Trade Organization (WTO) member countries.
- b) It is a global free trade agreement enforced by the United Nations.
- c) It is a program under which developed countries grant preferential tariff treatment to eligible developing countries.
- d) It mandates that developing countries eliminate all tariffs on imports from developed nations.

Q.13) With reference to the Accelerating Smart Power and Renewable Energy in India (ASPIRE) programme, consider the following statements:

1. It is a bilateral initiative between the UK and India, aimed at supporting India's transition to a sustainable, low-carbon energy future.
2. Under the ASPIRE programme, 'PRAYAS' platform was launched to facilitate knowledge sharing on industrial decarbonization and energy efficiency.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.14) Consider the following statements regarding the World Government Summit (WGS):

1. It aims to address military and defence strategies globally.
2. It is held annually at Paris, France.
3. The 2025 summit focused on the theme "Shaping Future Governments."

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.15) Which of the following countries are signatories to the India-Middle East-Europe Corridor (IMEC) project?

- a) India, China, Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Japan
- b) India, US, Saudi Arabia, UAE, France, and Germany
- c) India, Russia, UAE, Israel, and the European Union
- d) India, UK, Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Turkey

Q.16) With reference to the revised guidelines regarding the Free Movement Regime (FMR), consider the following statements:

1. Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) force has been entrusted with monitoring the movement of people under the revised FMR guideline.
2. Manipur has the highest number of operational border gates under the revised FMR agreement.
3. The current territorial limit for visa-free movement along the India-Myanmar border is 10 km.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.17) Consider the following statements regarding the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI):

1. It aims to provide financial assistance to disaster-prone countries for rebuilding infrastructure.
2. It is a legally binding treaty among participating countries.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.18) Mouvement du 23 Mars (M23 rebel groups) was seen in the news recently for:

- a) Signing a peace agreement with the Congolese government to integrate into the national army
- b) Launching an armed insurgency in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and capturing territories
- c) Leading humanitarian aid efforts in conflict zones of Central Africa
- d) Participating in UN-led peacekeeping missions in the Great Lakes region

Q.19) With reference to the Air Service Agreement (ASA), consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to establish a framework for bilateral air transport services between countries.
- 2. Airport construction guidelines and passenger rights are covered under the ASA.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.20) Which one of the following African countries is among the founding members of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)?

- a) Kenya
- b) South Africa
- c) Eswatini
- d) Tanzania

Q.21) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India and Qatar have signed Double Taxation Avoidance Treaty.
- 2. Qatar has recently become a member of BRICS.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.22) Which one of the following countries is NOT a member of Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)?

- a) Nepal
- b) Bangladesh
- c) Pakistan
- d) Thailand

Q.23) Which advanced propulsion technology is being developed collaboratively under the Defence Partnership–India (DP-I) to enhance the capabilities of the Indian Navy?

- a) Integrated full electric propulsion systems
- b) Nuclear propulsion systems
- c) Hybrid diesel-electric engines
- d) Solar-powered propulsion units

Q.24) With reference to the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA), consider the following statements:

- 1. It governs the construction of lighthouses and ports across all coastal nations.
- 2. Its headquarters are located in Paris, France.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.25) United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540' is related to:

- Preventing the financing of terrorism through international banking regulations.
- Strengthening global cooperation in cybersecurity and data protection.
- Establishing guidelines for the peaceful use of nuclear energy.
- Preventing non-state actors from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

Q.26) With reference to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), consider the following statements:

- It is a specialized agency of the UN that provides humanitarian aid during conflicts.
- The UN Security Council focuses on international peace and security, while the UNHRC primarily deals with human rights issues.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Q.27) Which one of the following best describes the role of the European Commission within the European Union (EU)?

- It acts as the legislative body responsible for passing laws.
- It functions as the executive body responsible for implementing policies and enforcing EU laws.
- It serves as the judicial authority of the EU, ensuring legal compliance.
- It represents national governments in negotiations within the EU.

Answer Key

1 – (b)	2 – (c)	3 – (a)	4 – (b)	5 – (a)	6 – (b)	7 – (c)	8 – (c)	9 – (d)
10 – (b)	11 – (b)	12 – (c)	13 – (a)	14 – (a)	15 – (b)	16 – (b)	17 – (d)	18 – (b)
19 – (a)	20 – (c)	21 – (a)	22 – (c)	23 – (a)	24 – (d)	25 – (d)	26 – (b)	27 – (b)

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The IMEC comprises two distinct corridors: **Eastern Corridor**: Links India to the Arabian Gulf via ports like Mundra (Gujarat) and maritime routes and **Northern Corridor**: Connects the Arabian Gulf to Europe through rail networks and Mediterranean ports like Haifa (Israel) and Piraeus (Greece). Mundra Port (Gujarat) is a critical node in the Eastern Corridor. It serves as a primary Indian port for shipping goods to UAE ports like Jebel Ali and Fujairah, initiating the maritime-leg of the corridor.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. IMEC's infrastructure includes hydrogen pipelines, electricity grids, and high-speed data cables, but no oil pipelines. The focus is on clean energy (green hydrogen) and digital connectivity, not oil transport.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

- The OECD Global Tax Deal primarily aims to address the challenges of profit shifting and tax base erosion caused by multinational enterprises (MNEs). These practices involve MNEs exploiting gaps in tax rules to shift profits to low-tax jurisdictions, even when the income is generated elsewhere.

The deal introduces measures to ensure that profits are taxed fairly where economic activities take place and value is created.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) is a Eurasian intergovernmental organization focusing on political, economic, and security cooperation. India and Pakistan became full members of the SCO in 2017.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The official languages of the SCO are Russian and Chinese.

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) is a connectivity project aimed at linking India, the Middle East, and Europe through a combination of maritime and rail routes.
- Statement 2 is correct. IMEC involves a combination of sea and rail transport to create an efficient trade route between India, the Gulf countries, and Europe. This multimodal transport system is intended to reduce transit time and costs while enhancing connectivity and trade.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Feed the Future initiative, led by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), focuses on promoting global agricultural development and combating hunger. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is an independent U.S. government agency established in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy to administer foreign aid and development assistance globally. Its primary mission is to promote socioeconomic development, alleviate poverty, provide humanitarian aid, and advance democratic values while supporting U.S. national security and economic interests.

Source: [AIR](#)

6. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 4 are correct. Chabahar Port is situated in southeastern Iran, along the Gulf of Oman. Chabahar Port is a key component of the INSTC, which aims to connect India with Central Asia, Russia, and Europe through Iran. India has committed significant resources to develop the Shahid Beheshti Terminal at Chabahar.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Gwadar Port, located in Pakistan, is geographically closer to India than Chabahar Port in Iran. Chabahar Port is a commercial port and is not used as a military base by India or for stationing troops in Afghanistan. Chabahar provides a faster and more cost-effective trade route for Indian goods to reach landlocked countries like Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (C)

- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) does not have the power to veto resolutions of the Security Council. The veto power is exclusive to the five permanent members of the Security Council (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States).

Source: [AIR](#)

8. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Two-State Solution refers to a proposed framework to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict by establishing two independent states: one for Israelis and one for Palestinians. This solution

envision peaceful coexistence between the two states, with agreed-upon borders and mutual recognition.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect. The ICC is not a judicial organ of the United Nations (UN). It is an independent international court established by the Rome Statute (1998). However, the UN Security Council can refer cases to the ICC. The ICC primarily has jurisdiction over member states of the Rome Statute, but it can also prosecute crimes in non-member states if the UN Security Council refers the case. The ICC does not need approval or consultation from the International Court of Justice (ICJ) before proceeding with a case. The ICJ settles disputes between states, while the ICC prosecutes individuals for crimes like genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity.

Source: [Dd News](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

- The AI Action Summit 2025 focuses on ensuring that artificial intelligence (AI) benefits society while addressing associated risks. One of its key objectives is promoting equitable access to safe and sustainable AI. This aligns with its broader themes of public interest AI, global governance, and fostering innovation while maintaining ethical standards.

Source: [AIR](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Defence Partnership–India (DP-I) initiative, launched by the United Kingdom, is focused on strengthening bilateral defence collaboration with India. Its primary objective is to promote joint development, manufacturing, and technology transfer in the defence sector.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) is a trade program designed to promote economic growth in developing countries by providing preferential tariff treatment (such as reduced or duty-free tariffs) for certain goods exported to developed countries. It is a unilateral program, meaning developed countries voluntarily grant these benefits without requiring reciprocal trade concessions from the beneficiary developing countries.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Accelerating Smart Power and Renewable Energy in India (ASPIRE) programme is a bilateral initiative between the UK and India. It focuses on supporting India's transition to renewable energy, improving industrial energy efficiency, and decarbonization efforts.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Industrial Decarbonization and Energy Efficiency Knowledge-Sharing Platform, known as iDEEKSHA, was developed under the ASPIRE programme to promote best practices and disseminate information on industrial decarbonization and energy efficiency.

Source: [AIR](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The World Government Summit (WGS) focuses on governance, innovation, sustainability, and global challenges such as climate change, economic resilience, healthcare, and technology. The WGS is held annually in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- Statement 3 is correct. The theme of the 2025 summit was "Shaping Future Governments," focusing on emerging trends in governance and critical global sectors.

Source: [DD News](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- The signatories to the India-Middle East-Europe Corridor (IMEC) project are India, the United States, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the European Union, France, Germany, and Italy. This was formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed during the G20 Summit in September 2023. The project aims to enhance connectivity and economic integration between Asia, the Middle East, and Europe through multi-modal transport networks, including railways, shipping routes, and pipelines.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The responsibility for monitoring cross-border movement under the Free Movement Regime (FMR) lies with the Assam Rifles.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Manipur, being a key state along the Indo-Myanmar border, has the highest number of border gates. The revised guidelines have reduced the territorial limit for visa-free movement from 16 km to 10 km.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) works as a platform for knowledge sharing, capacity building, policy advocacy, and fostering partnerships to promote disaster-resilient infrastructure. While it supports technical expertise and guidance, direct financial aid is not its primary mandate. The CDRI is not a legally binding treaty; it is a voluntary, multilateral partnership. Countries and organizations join the coalition voluntarily to collaborate on improving infrastructure resilience without any legal obligations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Mouvement du 23 Mars (M23) rebel group has recently been in the news for resuming its insurgency in the mineral-rich eastern DRC, capturing key territories and escalating conflict in the region.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. An ASA establishes a framework for bilateral air transport services between countries. It governs airline rights, such as frequency, designated airlines, traffic rights, and operational terms, ensuring international air connectivity between signatory countries.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. ASAs do not cover airport construction guidelines or passenger rights. These agreements focus on operational and economic aspects of air services, such as routes, capacity, and safety, rather than infrastructure development or passenger-specific regulations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (C)

- Eswatini is one of the founding members of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA), alongside India, Nicaragua, and Somalia. The IBCA is a global initiative launched by India in April 2023 to conserve seven big cat species: Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, and Puma. It aims to foster international collaboration for big cat conservation and habitat protection.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

21. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. India and Qatar signed a revised agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income. This treaty aims to streamline tax structures, prevent fiscal evasion, and enhance economic cooperation between the two nations.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. Qatar is not a member of BRICS. The recent expansion of BRICS in January 2025 included nine new partner countries—Belarus, Bolivia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Cuba, Malaysia, Thailand, Uganda, and Uzbekistan.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a regional organization comprising seven member countries from South Asia and Southeast Asia. These are: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, and Thailand.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Integrated Full Electric Propulsion (IFEP) system is being collaboratively developed under the Defence Partnership–India (DP-I) between India and the United Kingdom. This advanced propulsion technology is intended for India's next-generation Landing Platform Dock (LPD) fleet, with a focus on enhancing energy efficiency, reducing environmental impact, and improving operational capabilities.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The IALA provides technical guidance, standards, and recommendations for marine aids to navigation, such as buoys, beacons, and lighthouses, to ensure maritime safety and efficiency. The actual construction and management of lighthouses are the responsibility of individual nations. IALA's headquarters are located in Saint-Germain-en-Laye, France.

Source: [AIR](#)

25. Correct Answer is (D)

- United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540, adopted in 2004, focuses on preventing the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, as well as their delivery systems, to non-state actors such as terrorist groups. It imposes binding obligations on all UN member states to establish domestic controls, enforce laws, and take measures to prevent such proliferation.

Source: [AIR](#)

26. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) is not a specialized agency of the UN, nor does it provide humanitarian aid during conflicts. Instead, it is a subsidiary body of the UN General Assembly, tasked with promoting and protecting human rights globally, addressing violations, and making recommendations.
- Statement 2 is correct. The UN Security Council is responsible for maintaining international peace and security, while the UNHRC's primary focus is on human rights issues, including investigating violations and promoting universal respect for human rights.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- The European Commission is the executive arm of the EU, responsible for drafting legislation, implementing decisions, enforcing EU laws, and managing policies. The European Council nominates the President of the European Commission, who must then be approved by the European Parliament through a vote.

Source: [AIR](#)

Economy

Q.1) With reference to the Economic Survey 2024-25, consider the following statements:

1. It encourages the rapid shutdown of coal-fired plants to reach net zero emissions by the year 2070.
2. Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are the top drivers of job creation in India.
3. There has been an increase in the Female Labor Force Participation Rate (FLFPR) due to the increasing participation of women in rural India's workforce.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.2) With reference to the Economic Survey 2024-25, consider the following statements:

1. It highlights the need for corporate profit growth to align with wage growth to sustain economic demand and stability.
2. It stresses the need for indigenisation of technology and raw materials to facilitate India's transition to electric mobility and reduce reliance on imports.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.3) With reference to the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP), consider the following statements:

1. It specifically aims to enhance public-private partnerships (PPP) in digital infrastructure.
2. The India Investment Grid (IIG) platform is used for monitoring and tracking NIP projects.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding the Economic Survey of India:

1. It is prepared by the Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) and presented by the Ministry of Finance.
2. The document provides a comprehensive review of the Indian economy's performance during the preceding financial year.
3. Its recommendations are mandatory for the government to implement.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 2 only

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. U.S. Dollar Index (DXY) measures the value of the U.S. dollar relative to a basket of foreign currencies.
2. British Pound has the highest weight in the U.S. Dollar Index (DXY).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.6) Which one of the following statements correctly defines the term 'Gender Budgeting'?

- a) It refers to the process of allocating funds exclusively for women's empowerment programs.
- b) It involves analyzing the impact of government budgets on gender equality and ensuring that resources are allocated to address gender disparities.
- c) It is the practice of setting aside a fixed percentage of the total budget for gender-specific health services.
- d) It is the process of adjusting taxes based on the gender of the taxpayer.

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC):

- 1. It is a statutory body.
- 2. It was constituted the recommendations of the Raghuram Rajan Committee.
- 3. Its main objective is to set the repo rate to achieve the inflation target set by the government.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.8) With reference to the Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACS), consider the following statements:

- 1. PACS are grassroots-level cooperative institutions that primarily provide short-term agricultural credit to farmers in rural areas.
- 2. PACS come under the purview of the Ministry of Cooperation.
- 3. All members of the PACS have equal voting rights regardless of their shareholding.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.9) With reference to the Comprehensive Port Connectivity Plan (CPCP), consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to enhance connectivity between Indian ports and domestic production and consumption centers.
- 2. It is a part of 'Make in India' initiative.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) is conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO).
- 2. The PLFS provides quarterly estimates for urban areas and annual estimates for both rural and urban areas.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.11) Consider the following statements:

1. In a repo transaction, gold reserves serve as collateral for the short-term loans.
2. A reduction in the repo rate by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) would lower borrowing costs for banks.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.12) Which one of the following is correct regarding the Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)?

- a) It requires banks to hold sufficient high-quality liquid assets to cover short-term liquidity needs during stress scenarios.
- b) It mandates banks to maintain a fixed percentage of their total deposits as cash reserves at all times.
- c) It is a measure of a bank's profitability and return on assets over a financial year.
- d) It determines the proportion of a bank's loans that must be backed by physical collateral.

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

1. Banks can issue loans only based on the deposits they already hold.
2. Bank credit growth influences private investment in the economy.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.14) With referenced to the Variable Rate Repo (VRR), consider the following statements:

1. These are short-term borrowing mechanisms where banks borrow funds from the RBI at variable interest rates by pledging securities.
2. The interest rate in VRR is pre-determined by the RBI.
3. Only commercial banks operating in India can participate in VRR auctions.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.15) Which one of the following is NOT a cause of inflation?

- a) Increased demand for goods and services
- b) Higher production costs
- c) Decrease in money supply
- d) Supply chain disruptions

Q.16) Which one of the following organizations is responsible for compiling and releasing the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) in India?

- a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- b) Ministry of Finance
- c) Central Statistical Organisation (CSO)
- d) National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog

Q.17) Which one of the following correctly describes the term 'Biosecurity Zones'?

- a) Areas designated for the exclusive cultivation of genetically modified crops to enhance agricultural yield.
- b) Regions identified for intensive biodiversity conservation where human activity is strictly prohibited.
- c) Strategically designated zones with controlled access to prevent the spread of pests, diseases, and invasive species in agriculture and livestock.
- d) Specially marked marine zones where only selective fishing techniques are allowed to protect endangered aquatic species.

Q.18) With reference to the co-operative banks, consider the following statements:

- 1. Co-operative banks are owned by customers, while commercial banks are owned by shareholders.
- 2. There are three types of co-operative banks in India.
- 3. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is responsible for the supervision of urban co-operative banks in India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.19) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) primarily measures the purchasing power of consumers in the economy.
- 2. If the WPI is consistently rising, it indicates inflation in the economy.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.20) Consider the following statements regarding the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB):

- 1. It allows customers to hold savings and current accounts but does not offer loans.
- 2. It is a 100% government-owned entity.
- 3. IPPB operates under the supervision of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.21) With reference to the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), consider the following statements:

- 1. Its main objective is to promote and develop exports of agricultural commodities and processed foods from India.
- 2. It has been established under the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981.
- 3. It functions under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.22) Consider the following:

1. Private consumption
2. Private investment
3. Government expenditure
4. Net exports
5. Money supply

How many of the following are the sources of demand (expenditure) in an economy?

- a) Only two
- b) Only three
- c) Only four
- d) All five

Q.23) Consider the following statements:

1. GDP (Gross Domestic Product) is the value added by the production of goods and services.
2. According to Keynesian, investment plays an active role in driving economic growth, while consumption is more passive.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.24) In a U.S. Dollar-Rupee swap auction conducted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), participating banks:

- a) Exchange their rupees for dollars with the RBI and agree to buy them back later.
- b) Sell corporate bonds to the RBI in exchange for cash.
- c) Invest in RBI-issued equity instruments for liquidity support.
- d) Receive dollars from the RBI without any repurchase obligation.

Q.25) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) framework was seen in the news recently in the context of:

- a) Promoting fairness and inclusion in workplaces to eliminate discrimination and bias.
- b) Replacing merit-based recruitment with identity-based hiring practices.
- c) Eliminating diversity training programs in educational institutions worldwide.
- d) Mandating quotas for underrepresented groups in all sectors of the economy.

Q.26) Stagflation refers to:

- a) A period of rapid economic growth accompanied by low inflation and low unemployment.
- b) A situation characterized by high inflation, stagnant economic growth, and high unemployment.
- c) An economic condition where only inflation rises while unemployment remains low.
- d) A phase of an economy where deflation and high unemployment occur simultaneously.

Q.27) With reference to the rupee depreciation, which of the following statements are correct?

1. It reduces the oil import bill.
2. It increases competitiveness of Indian exports.
3. The rupee value of remittances increases.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.28) Consider the following statements regarding the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI):

1. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is responsible for appointing the Chairperson of the SEBI.
2. The SEBI Chairperson is appointed for a tenure of up to 5 years or until the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier, and is eligible for reappointment.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.29) Consider the following statements regarding the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs):

1. NBFCs cannot accept demand deposits, while banks can accept.
2. NBFCs are regulated by SEBI.
3. Agriculture is a significant focus area for infrastructural funding by NBFCs.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Answer Key

1 – (a)	2 – (c)	3 – (b)	4 – (a)	5 – (a)	6 – (b)	7 – (c)	8 – (b)	9 – (a)	10 – (c)
11 – (b)	12 – (a)	13 – (b)	14 – (a)	15 – (c)	16 – (c)	17 – (c)	18 – (b)	19 – (b)	20 – (c)
21 – (c)	22 – (c)	23 – (c)	24 – (a)	25 – (a)	26 – (b)	27 – (b)	28 – (b)	29 – (a)	

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Economic Survey 2024-25 opposes rapid shutdowns of coal-fired plants, citing India's reliance on coal for energy security and development. It emphasizes that coal remains critical due to newer infrastructure (most coal plants built in the 2010s) and the absence of reliable alternatives. The focus is on gradual transition through renewable energy expansion, grid upgrades, and advanced coal technologies, not abrupt shutdowns. While MSMEs employ 23.24 crore people (second only to agriculture), the Survey clarifies that agriculture remains the largest employer, particularly in rural areas.
- Statement 3 is correct. The FLFPR surged from 23.3% (2017-18) to 41.7% (2023-24), driven predominantly by rural women. The rural FLFPR nearly doubled from 24.6% to 47.6%, attributed to government initiatives like skill development, entrepreneurship programs, and grassroots economic empowerment.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Economic Survey 2024-25 discusses the disproportionate growth between corporate profits and wages. It notes that while corporate profits surged to a 15-year high (4.8% of GDP in FY24), wage growth stagnated, particularly in entry-level IT jobs. This disparity risks curbing demand, exacerbating income inequality, and slowing economic momentum. The Survey raises concerns about India's heavy reliance on China for critical EV

components (75% of lithium-ion batteries imported) and minerals (e.g., China processes 60-90% of global nickel, cobalt, and lithium). It calls for urgent indigenization of EV technology and raw materials, advocating for R&D in advanced battery technologies (sodium-ion, solid-state) and investments in recycling infrastructure. The Survey also recommends policy shifts to prioritize public transportation over private EVs, given India's limited land and import vulnerabilities.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. NIP does not specifically focus on enhancing PPPs exclusively in digital infrastructure. Instead, NIP covers a wide range of infrastructure projects, including energy, roads, railways, urban infrastructure, and more.
- Statement 2 is correct. The India Investment Grid (IIG) serves as an interactive and dynamic platform for tracking and monitoring projects under the NIP. It provides real-time updates on project progress and showcases investment opportunities for both domestic and international investors.

Source: [DD News](#)

4. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Economic Survey is prepared under the guidance of the Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) and presented by the Ministry of Finance. The Economic Division of the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, is responsible for preparing the survey under the supervision of the CEA. The Economic Survey provides a comprehensive review of the Indian economy's performance over the past financial year. It analyzes various economic indicators, identifies challenges, and offers insights into the state of the economy.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The recommendations made in the Economic Survey are not mandatory for the government to implement. The survey serves as an important policy document that provides context and analysis for the upcoming budget, but its recommendations are not binding on the government.

Source: [DD News](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The U.S. Dollar Index (DXY) measures the value of the U.S. dollar against a basket of six major foreign currencies: the Euro, Japanese Yen, British Pound, Canadian Dollar, Swedish Krona, and Swiss Franc.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Euro has the highest weight in the U.S. Dollar Index. A rising USD index can lead to higher borrowing costs for emerging markets that rely on dollar-denominated debt.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (B)

- Gender budgeting refers to the practice of analyzing, planning, and restructuring government budgets to promote gender equality. It involves assessing how public resources are allocated and spent, ensuring that fiscal policies address the different needs of men and women and aim to reduce gender disparities.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is a statutory body established under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 (amended in 2016). The primary objective of the MPC is to determine the repo rate to achieve the inflation target set by the Government of India in consultation with the RBI. The inflation target is currently set at $4\% \pm 2\%$ (i.e., 2% to 6%) under the flexible inflation targeting (FIT) framework.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The MPC was constituted based on the recommendations of the Urjit Patel Committee (2014).

Source: [AIR](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. PACS are the lowest tier of the cooperative credit structure and focus on providing short-term and medium-term credit to farmers for agricultural purposes. PACS are overseen by the Ministry of Cooperation, which was established to strengthen the cooperative sector in India, including PACS.
 - Statement 3 is incorrect. While PACS generally follow the "one member, one vote" principle, exceptions exist. For instance, nominal or associate members often do not have voting rights.

Source: [AIR](#)

9. Correct Answer is (A)
- Statement 1 is correct. The Comprehensive Port Connectivity Plan (CPCP) is designed to improve connectivity between Indian ports and domestic production and consumption centers. It focuses on addressing road and rail infrastructure gaps, enhancing last-mile connectivity, and boosting logistics efficiency to support trade and economic growth.
 - Statement 2 is incorrect. The CPCP is aligned with the National Logistics Policy (NLP) and Sagarmala Programme, which aim to improve port infrastructure, connectivity, and logistics efficiency.

Source: [DD News](#)

10. Correct Answer is (C)
- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) is conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO), which operates under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI). The PLFS provides: **Quarterly estimates** for urban areas using the Current Weekly Status (CWS) approach and **Annual estimates** for both rural and urban areas using both the Usual Status (ps+ss) and Current Weekly Status (CWS) approaches.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statement 1 is incorrect. In a repo (repurchase) transaction, government securities, are typically used as collateral. Banks borrow funds from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) by pledging these government securities and agreeing to repurchase them later.
 - Statement 2 is correct. The repo rate is the interest rate at which the RBI lends money to commercial banks. A reduction in the repo rate lowers borrowing costs for banks, enabling them to access cheaper funds, which can also lead to lower interest rates for consumers and businesses.

Source: [AIR](#)

12. Correct Answer is (A)
- The Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) is a regulatory requirement that ensures banks maintain an adequate level of high-quality liquid assets (HQLAs) to meet their short-term obligations during periods of financial stress, typically over a 30-day period. It is designed to improve the resilience of banks to liquidity shocks.

Source: [DD News](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statement 1 is incorrect. Banks are not limited to issuing loans solely based on existing deposits. They can create loans electronically through accounting entries, which effectively create new money in the economy.

- Statement 2 is correct. There is a positive relationship between bank credit growth (the rate at which banks issue loans) and private investment. When banks provide more credit, businesses have easier access to funds for expansion and investment, which boosts private sector activity. Conversely, slower bank credit growth can limit private investment.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Variable Rate Repo (VRR) auctions are short-term borrowing mechanisms where banks borrow funds from the RBI by pledging government securities as collateral. The interest rate is determined through an auction process, making it variable.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The interest rate in VRR is not pre-determined by the RBI. It is decided through a competitive auction process, where banks bid for funds at varying interest rates. Participation in VRR auctions is not limited to commercial banks. Other eligible entities, such as Primary Dealers (PDs) and certain financial institutions, may also participate, depending on RBI regulations.

Source: [DD News](#)

15. Correct Answer is (C)

- Decrease in money supply leads to deflation or a slowdown in price increases rather than inflation. Inflation is generally caused by factors like increased demand for goods and services (demand-pull inflation), higher production costs (cost-push inflation), or supply chain disruptions, all of which drive prices upward by either boosting demand or restricting supply.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), is responsible for compiling and releasing the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) in India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (C)

- Biosecurity zones are specifically created to control and prevent the spread of pests, diseases, and invasive species in agriculture and livestock. These zones are strategically designated with regulated access and specific measures to safeguard the health of plants, animals, and ecosystems.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Co-operative banks are owned and managed by their members, who are also their customers, operating on a democratic principle of "one member, one vote." In contrast, commercial banks are owned by shareholders and operate with the primary goal of maximizing profits. The RBI regulates and supervises urban co-operative banks (UCBs) under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. Rural co-operative banks, however, are jointly regulated by the RBI and state governments.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. In India, co-operative banks can broadly be categorized into two types:
 - **Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs):** Operate in urban and semi-urban areas.
 - **Rural Co-operative Banks:** Further divided into short-term (e.g., Primary Agricultural Credit Societies, District Central Cooperative Banks) and long-term structures (e.g., State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The WPI measures the price changes at the wholesale level, i.e., the price of goods sold in bulk and traded between businesses. It does not directly measure the purchasing

power of consumers, which is reflected by indices like the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The CPI focuses on retail prices and is more relevant to consumer purchasing power.

- Statement 2 is correct. A consistent rise in the WPI indicates an increase in wholesale prices, which is a sign of inflation at the wholesale level. Inflation refers to a general increase in prices over time, and WPI is one of the measures used to track it.

Source: [AIR](#)

20. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. IPPB provides savings and current account services, but as a payments bank, it is not allowed to issue loans or credit cards. Its services include deposits up to ₹2 lakh, money transfers, bill payments, insurance, and other financial services, but lending is prohibited as per RBI guidelines. IPPB is a public sector entity established under the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications, with 100% equity owned by the Government of India. Like all payments banks, IPPB operates under the regulatory supervision of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Source: [AIR](#)

21. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) was established to promote the export of agricultural and processed food products from India, as per the APEDA Act of 1985. APEDA operates under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. PEDDA was established under the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985, which came into effect in 1986.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

22. Correct Answer is (C)

- **Private consumption:** Private consumption refers to spending by households on goods and services. It is a key component of aggregate demand.
- **Private investment:** Private investment includes spending by businesses on capital goods like machinery, equipment, and infrastructure. This contributes to aggregate demand.
- **Government expenditure:** Government spending on infrastructure, public goods, and services directly contributes to aggregate demand in the economy.
- **Net exports:** Net exports (exports minus imports) represent foreign demand for domestically produced goods and services. A positive net export value adds to aggregate demand.
- **Money supply:** Money supply refers to the total amount of money circulating in an economy. While it influences purchasing power and credit availability, it is not directly considered a source of expenditure or demand.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. GDP represents the total monetary value of all final goods and services produced within a country's borders in a specific time period. It is calculated as the sum of value added at every stage of production, which includes the output of producers minus the value of intermediate goods consumed in production. In Keynesian economics, investment is considered a volatile and active driver of economic growth because it depends on factors like interest rates and business expectations. On the other hand, consumption is viewed as a stable and passive function, primarily determined by current income levels.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (A)

- In a U.S. Dollar-Rupee swap auction conducted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI): Banks sell U.S. dollars to the RBI in exchange for rupees at the current exchange rate (spot rate). Simultaneously, they agree to repurchase the same amount of dollars from the RBI at a future date by paying a

premium over the spot rate. This mechanism is designed to inject rupee liquidity into the banking system while ensuring that the dollars are returned to the banks after the swap period. A buy/sell swap (RBI buys foreign currency and sells it later) injects rupee liquidity into the system, whereas a sell/buy swap (RBI sells foreign currency and buys it back later) absorbs excess rupee liquidity.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) framework focuses on creating fair and inclusive workplaces by addressing discrimination and bias. It ensures that people from different backgrounds get equal opportunities, fair treatment, and the support they need to succeed.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (B)

- Stagflation combines stagnation (slow economic growth) with inflation (rising prices) and elevated unemployment, making it a challenging economic condition to address.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. A depreciating rupee increases the cost of imports, including crude oil, as oil is priced in U.S. dollars. India, which imports over 85% of its crude oil needs, faces higher import bills when the rupee weakens.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. A weaker rupee makes Indian goods cheaper in global markets, improving their competitiveness and boosting export potential. A depreciating rupee benefits non-resident Indians (NRIs) sending money back to India because they receive more rupees for the same amount of foreign currency. This increases the value of remittances in rupee terms.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The SEBI Chairperson is not appointed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Rather, the appointment is made by the Central Government on the recommendation of the Financial Sector Regulatory Appointments Search Committee (FSRASC).
- Statement 2 is correct. The SEBI Chairperson is appointed for a tenure of up to 5 years or until the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier, and is eligible for reappointment.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. NBFCs are prohibited from accepting demand deposits under RBI regulations. Demand deposits (such as savings and current accounts) are a feature exclusive to banks as they are part of the payment and settlement system.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. NBFCs are primarily regulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). However, certain NBFC activities, such as venture capital or merchant banking, may fall under SEBI's purview. The overarching regulatory authority for NBFCs remains the RBI. While NBFCs may provide some financing for agriculture-related activities, their primary focus in infrastructure funding is on sectors like real estate, power, roads, and urban infrastructure. Agriculture is not a major focus area for infrastructural funding by NBFCs.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Environment

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The Ramsar Convention focuses only on conservation of migratory bird species across international borders.
2. In India, Kerala has the highest number of wetlands.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.2) *Gambusia affinis* (Mosquitofish) and *Poecilia reticulata* (Guppy) are fish species recently seen in the news due to:

- a) Their role in increasing fish biodiversity in Indian rivers.
- b) Their declining populations in their native habitats.
- c) Their use as biological agents for mosquito control.
- d) Their discovery as new species in Indian water bodies.

Q.3) With reference to the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to promote the conservation of seven major big cat species and their habitats.
2. Five big cat species listed under the IBCA are native to India.
3. IBCA's permanent secretariat is located Nairobi, Kenya.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. Forest in India includes all green areas, regardless of their classification, ownership, or whether they are officially recorded as forests.
2. Forest land in India cannot be reduced unless an equal amount of land is provided for compensatory afforestation.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.5) Consider the following:

1. Poultry feed
2. Livestock feed
3. Starch production
4. Human consumption
5. Ethanol production

How many of the above are the uses of maize?

- a) Only two
- b) Only three
- c) Only four
- d) All five

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. Sacred groves are small forested areas that are protected and conserved by local communities due to their religious and cultural significance.
2. All sacred groves are protected under the Wildlife Protection Act (WLPA) 1972.
3. India has the highest number of sacred groves in the world.
4. Sacred groves serve as biodiversity hotspots.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. Community Reserves are a type of Protected Areas introduced under the Wildlife Protection Act (WLPA), 2002.
2. Conservation reserves are located on government-owned land adjacent to protected areas, while community reserves are established on private lands.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.8) With reference to Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, consider the following statements:

1. The reserve is situated at the tri-junction where the states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka meet.
2. The Moyar River and its tributaries drain the reserve.
3. Fairy Blue bird can be found in the reserve.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. Olive Ridley sea turtle is listed in Schedule I of India's Wildlife Protection Act (1972).
2. Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park in Gujarat is a key protected area for Olive Ridley turtles.
3. Olive Ridley sea turtles use the Earth's magnetic field to navigate across vast ocean distances.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the Ashtamudi Lake:

1. It is the largest lake in Kerala.
2. It is a Ramsar site of international importance.
3. It is connected with the Arabian Sea.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.11) Consider the following statements regarding the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA):

1. It has been established under the Environment Protection Act, 1986.
2. It collaborates with state governments and requires their consultation before any declaration or modification of tiger reserves.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.12) 'Srjanam' is a:

- a) A robotic system designed for industrial waste recycling in manufacturing plants.
- b) A portable device for treating household organic waste through composting.
- c) A water purification system developed for rural areas to provide clean drinking water.
- d) An automated rig developed to convert biomedical waste into soil additives.

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

1. India has the largest Ramsar site network in Asia.
2. India's tiger population accounts for approximately 75 percent of the world's wild tiger population.
3. India's climate action is guided by Nationally Determined Adaptation Strategies (NDASs).

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.14) Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs) refers to:

- a) Financial aid provided by developed countries to developing nations for climate action
- b) Units of greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions that can be traded between countries
- c) Renewable energy projects funded by international organizations
- d) Agreements between countries to share technology for climate adaptation

Q.15) Which of the following types of waste is most suitable for incineration process?

- a) Biomedical and hazardous waste
- b) Electronic waste (e-waste)
- c) Heavy metal-contaminated sludge
- d) Recyclable plastic and glass

Q.16) With reference to the black carbon, which of the following statements are correct?

1. It is a greenhouse gas that absorbs infrared radiation.
2. It has a relatively short atmospheric lifespan but a strong warming effect.
3. It is produced by the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels, biomass, and organic matter.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.17) With reference to the Dibru-Saikhowa National Park, consider the following statements:

1. It is a national park and biosphere reserve located in Assam.
2. Subansiri and Dhansiri are two rivers that form the boundaries of park.
3. It is the largest salix swamp forest in north-eastern India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.18) With reference to the Marsupials animals, consider the following statements:

1. These are a group of mammals that give birth to premature young.
2. Africa is home to the most diverse and abundant marsupial populations.
3. Kangaroo is an example of marsupial animal.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.19) With reference to the Biennial Transparency Report (BTR), consider the following statements:

1. It offers a platform for countries to share technological innovations in renewable energy.
2. Only developing countries are required to submit BTRs.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.20) Nilgiri tiger is a species of:

- a) Tiger
- b) Snake
- c) Bird
- d) Butterfly

Q.21) Consider the following statements regarding the Parambikulam Tiger Reserve:

1. It is located in Kerala.
2. It shares its boundaries with the Anamalai Tiger Reserve.
3. The Chalakudy River flows through the Parambikulam Tiger Reserve.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.22) Which one of the following best defines Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)?

- a) The amount of oxygen required for the oxidation of inorganic substances in water
- b) The total oxygen content present in a water body
- c) The amount of dissolved oxygen required by microorganisms to decompose organic matter in water
- d) The oxygen consumed by aquatic plants during photosynthesis

Q.23) With reference to the National Green Tribunal (NGT), consider the following statements:

1. National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 established the NGT.
2. India is the first developing nation to establish such a tribunal.
3. It has the power to create new environmental laws.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.24) Consider the following statements with respect to the Carbon Capture and Sequestration (CCS):

1. It is the process of capturing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and converting it into oxygen.
2. CCS technology supports both adaptation and mitigation efforts.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.25) The mass nesting phenomenon of Olive Ridley turtles, known as 'Arribada,' is unique because:

- a) It involves male and female turtles gathering at the shore to build nests.
- b) Thousands of female turtles return to the same beach where they were born to lay eggs.
- c) It occurs only once in a lifetime for each turtle species.
- d) It requires human intervention for the turtles to successfully nest.

Q.26) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Indian carbon market requires industries to reduce their total carbon emissions.

Statement-II: The Indian carbon trading system focuses on improving emissions intensity.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Q.27) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Voluntary carbon markets allow private businesses to generate and trade carbon credits.

Statement-II: Private businesses can undertake activities like afforestation and carbon capture to generate carbon credits.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Q.28) Glacier ice algae' was seen in the news recently for:

- a) Producing oxygen that contributes to the formation of ozone holes.
- b) Releasing nutrients that support the growth of other marine organisms.
- c) Emitting greenhouse gases that accelerate global warming.
- d) Darkening glacier surfaces leading to increased melting rates.

Q.29) False killer whales are species of:

- a) Baleen whales
- b) Oceanic dolphins
- c) Sharks
- d) Sea turtles

Q.30) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports are legally binding for all member countries of the United Nations.

Statement-II: The IPCC was established under the United Nations to provide scientific guidance on climate change policies.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Q.31) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Deforestation and soil erosion are the major source of nitrogen oxides in the atmosphere.
- 2. Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) is a primary component of photochemical smog.
- 3. A higher concentration of NO₂ in the atmosphere lowers the crop yields.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.32) The primary objective of Renewable Purchase Obligations (RPOs) in India is to:

- a) Promote foreign investment in the renewable energy sector
- b) Mandate a minimum percentage of electricity from renewable sources
- c) Subsidize renewable energy producers
- d) Phase out fossil fuel-based power generation completely

Q.33) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Gulf of Mannar region has been included in the hydrocarbon exploration.

Statement-II: The Gulf of Mannar is known for its rich marine biodiversity and is home to endangered species.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Q.34) Consider the following statements:

1. India, Mexico, and Costa Rica host the world's most significant mass nesting sites for Olive Ridley turtles.
2. In India, Dhanushkodi and Rameswaram are among the largest nesting sites for Olive Ridley turtles in the entire world.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer Key

1 – (d)	2 – (c)	3 – (b)	4 – (c)	5 – (d)	6 – (c)	7 – (c)
8 – (b)	9 – (b)	10 – (b)	11 – (b)	12 – (d)	13 – (a)	14 – (c)
15 – (a)	16 – (b)	17 – (b)	18 – (b)	19 – (d)	20 – (d)	21 – (a)
22 – (c)	23 – (b)	24 – (b)	25 – (b)	26 – (d)	27 – (a)	28 – (d)
29 – (b)	30 – (d)	31 – (b)	32 – (b)	33 – (b)	34 – (a)	

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Ramsar Convention is not limited to migratory birds; it focuses on the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands globally. While wetlands support migratory birds, the treaty applies to a wide range of wetland ecosystems (marshes, lakes, rivers, peatlands, mangroves, coral reefs, etc.). Tamil Nadu leads India with 20 Ramsar sites, followed by Uttar Pradesh (10 sites). Recently, Sakkarakottai and Therthangal bird sanctuaries in Tamil Nadu's Ramanathapuram district were designated as Ramsar sites.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

- *Gambusia affinis* (Mosquitofish) and *Poecilia reticulata* (Guppy) are introduced in water bodies to control mosquito populations by feeding on mosquito larvae.

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) focuses on the conservation of seven big cat species: Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, and Puma, along with their habitats. India is home to five of the seven big cats: Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, and Cheetah. The other two species, Jaguar and Puma, are not found in India.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The IBCA's headquarters and permanent secretariat are located in New Delhi, India.

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. According to the Supreme Court's 1996 judgment in the T.N. Godavarman Thirumulpad case, the term forest has a broad and inclusive definition. It includes not only officially recorded forests but also any area that fits the dictionary meaning of a forest, irrespective of its ownership or classification. The Supreme Court has ruled that no forest land can

be reduced or diverted for non-forest purposes unless compensatory land is provided for afforestation to offset the loss.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (D)

- Maize is a versatile crop with multiple uses:

1. **Poultry feed:** Maize is a primary ingredient in poultry feed due to its high energy content.
2. **Livestock feed:** It is also widely used as fodder for livestock.
3. **Starch production:** Maize is processed to produce starch, which is used in various industries like food, textiles, and paper.
4. **Human consumption:** Around 10% of maize in India is used directly for human consumption in the form of cornmeal, flour, or snacks.
5. **Ethanol production:** Maize is increasingly being used as a raw material for ethanol production, especially with the government's push for ethanol blending in petrol.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 3 and 4 are correct. Sacred groves are small forested areas conserved by local communities for their religious and cultural importance. India is estimated to have 1-10 lakh sacred groves, making it the country with the highest number globally. Sacred groves are recognized as biodiversity hotspots, supporting native flora and fauna.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Not all sacred groves are protected under the WLPA. Only those notified as community reserves or other protected categories under the Act receive legal protection. Most sacred groves are conserved through customary laws and community efforts.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Community Reserves were introduced as a category of Protected Areas under the Wildlife Protection Act (WLPA), 2002, to involve local communities and private landowners in biodiversity conservation. Conservation Reserves are typically located on government-owned land that lies adjacent to existing protected areas such as national parks or wildlife sanctuaries, serving as buffer zones. In contrast, Community Reserves are established on community-owned or privately-owned land, where locals voluntarily participate in conservation efforts.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Mudumalai Tiger Reserve is situated at the tri-junction of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Kerala. It forms part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Moyar River and its tributaries drain the reserve. The Fairy Blue Bird is among the bird species found in Mudumalai Tiger Reserve.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Olive Ridley turtles are legally protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, which grants them the highest level of protection in India. Olive Ridley turtles, like other sea turtles, use the Earth's magnetic field as a navigational tool to migrate across oceans and return to their natal beaches for nesting.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While Olive Ridley turtles are occasionally found in the Gulf of Kutch, it is not a key protected area or significant nesting site for them. The most critical nesting sites for Olive Ridelies in India are along the Odisha coast (Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Ashtamudi Lake is the second largest lake in Kerala. The largest lake in Kerala is Vembanad Lake.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Ashtamudi Lake is a designated Ramsar site of international importance, recognized for its ecological significance and biodiversity. The lake is connected to the Arabian Sea through the Neendakara estuary.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The NTCA was established in December 2005 under Section 38 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, following amendments made in 2006.
- Statement 2 is correct. NTCA collaborates with state governments and requires their consultation before declaring or modifying tiger reserves, as per the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (D)

- 'Srjanam' is an automated biomedical waste conversion rig developed by the CSIR-National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (CSIR-NIIST). It disinfects pathogenic medical waste and converts it into superior soil additives, addressing the challenge of managing India's biomedical waste. It is India's first indigenous Automated Biomedical Waste Treatment Rig.

Source: [AIR](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India now has the largest Ramsar site network in Asia and the third-largest globally in terms of the number of sites. India accounts for approximately 75% of the world's wild tiger population.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. India's climate action is guided by its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement.

Source: [DD News](#)

14. Correct Answer is (C)

- Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs) are units of greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions or removals, measured in carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e), that can be traded between countries under the framework of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. These units represent verified mitigation outcomes achieved in one country that can be transferred to another country to help meet its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

15. Correct Answer is (A)

- Incineration is widely recognized as the safest and most effective method for disposing of biomedical and hazardous waste. It ensures complete destruction of pathogens, toxic chemicals, and other harmful substances, reducing the risk of disease spread and environmental contamination. This method also significantly reduces waste volume by up to 90%. While incineration can be used for e-waste, it is not ideal due to the release of toxic gases like cadmium and mercury during combustion. It is also not suitable for heavy metal-contaminated sludge and recyclable plastic and glass.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Black carbon is not a greenhouse gas. Instead, it is a particulate matter (a type of aerosol) that absorbs sunlight (solar radiation) rather than infrared radiation. It contributes to warming by absorbing heat and reducing the reflectivity (albedo) of surfaces like snow and ice.

- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Black carbon has a short atmospheric lifespan, lasting days to weeks, but it has a significant warming effect due to its ability to absorb sunlight and contribute to the melting of snow and ice when deposited on such surfaces. Black carbon is formed during the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels (e.g., coal, diesel), biomass (e.g., wood, crop residues), and other organic materials.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Dibru-Saikhowa is both a National Park and a Biosphere Reserve located in the Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts of Assam, India. It was designated as a Biosphere Reserve in 1997 and a National Park in 1999. Dibru-Saikhowa National Park is recognized as the largest salix swamp forest in northeastern India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The park is bounded by the Brahmaputra and Lohit rivers in the north and the Dibru River in the south.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

18. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Marsupials are characterized by giving birth to relatively underdeveloped offspring. These premature young then continue their development in the mother's pouch (marsupium) for an extended period after birth. Kangaroos are one of the most well-known examples of marsupials. They are native to Australia and exhibit the characteristic marsupial trait of carrying their young in a pouch.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Marsupials are primarily found in Australia, Tasmania, New Guinea, and the Americas. Africa is not a significant habitat for marsupials.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

19. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) is primarily a reporting mechanism under the Paris Agreement's Enhanced Transparency Framework. It focuses on providing information about greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, progress toward Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and other climate-related actions, such as mitigation and adaptation. All Parties to the Paris Agreement are required to submit BTRs, including both developed and developing countries. However, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) have the flexibility to submit BTRs at their discretion due to capacity constraints.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Nilgiri tiger (*Parantica nilgiriensis*) is a butterfly species endemic to the Western Ghats of India. It belongs to the family Nymphalidae and is part of the danaid group of brush-footed butterflies. It thrives in high-altitude shola forests and plays an important role in the ecosystem.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Parambikulam Tiger Reserve is situated in the Palakkad district of Kerala. The Parambikulam Tiger Reserve shares its boundaries with the Anamalai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu, forming part of a larger contiguous forest landscape in the Western Ghats.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Parambikulam River, which is a tributary of the Chalakudy River, flows through the reserve. However, the Chalakudy River itself does not flow through the Parambikulam Tiger Reserve.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (C)

- Biochemical Oxygen Demand is an analytical parameter that measures the amount of dissolved oxygen (DO) consumed by aerobic bacteria as they break down organic matter in water.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The NGT was established under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010, which provides for its creation to handle environmental disputes efficiently and expeditiously. India became the first developing nation and the third country globally (after Australia and New Zealand) to establish a specialized environmental tribunal.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The NGT does not have legislative powers to create new laws. It is a statutory body that adjudicates cases under existing environmental laws listed in Schedule I of the NGT Act, such as the Water Act, Air Act, and Environment Protection Act.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Carbon Capture and Sequestration (CCS) involves capturing carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from industrial sources or directly from the atmosphere, transporting it, and storing it in long-term storage locations such as geological formations. It does not involve converting CO₂ into oxygen.
- Statement 2 is correct. CCS plays a dual role in climate change efforts: Mitigation: By reducing CO₂ emissions from industries and power plants, CCS helps slow global warming and Adaptation: It supports technologies like hydrogen production and bioenergy, aiding energy transitions in hard-to-decarbonize sectors.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (B)

- The mass nesting phenomenon of Olive Ridley turtles, known as Arribada, is unique because thousands of female turtles come together on specific beaches to lay their eggs. These turtles exhibit a remarkable behaviour where they return to the very beaches where they were born to nest in large numbers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statement I is incorrect. The Indian carbon market does not mandate industries to reduce their absolute carbon emissions. Instead, it focuses on improving emissions efficiency by setting greenhouse gas (GHG) emission intensity targets (emissions per unit of production). Industries are required to produce goods more efficiently, such as using less energy or adopting cleaner technologies, rather than reducing total emissions.
- Statement II is correct. The Indian Carbon Market (ICM) emphasizes improving emissions intensity (GHG emissions per unit of output) through compliance mechanisms. Obligated entities must meet specific intensity targets, and those exceeding the targets can trade carbon credits, while others may need to purchase them to comply.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement I is correct. Voluntary carbon markets enable private entities to develop projects that reduce or remove greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, such as afforestation or carbon capture, and generate carbon credits. These credits can then be traded or sold to individuals or companies seeking to offset their emissions.
- Statement II is correct. Private businesses can engage in activities such as planting trees (afforestation), reforestation, or implementing technologies for carbon capture and storage to produce carbon credits. These projects are verified by third parties, and the resulting credits are sold in voluntary markets.

- Statement-II provides the reasoning behind Statement-I by explaining how private businesses generate carbon credits through specific mitigation activities. Therefore, both statements are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (D)

- Recent studies have highlighted that microscopic alga growing on glacier surfaces, particularly on the Greenland Ice Sheet, darken the ice due to their pigmentation. This darkening reduces the ice's reflectivity (albedo), causing it to absorb more sunlight and, consequently, melt faster. These algae are highly efficient at nutrient uptake, allowing them to thrive in harsh glacial environments and potentially expand their coverage, further accelerating ice melt.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (B)

- False killer whales (*Pseudorca crassidens*) are a species of oceanic dolphins belonging to the family Delphinidae. Despite their name, they are not related to killer whales (which are also dolphins) but are named for their similar skull shape. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) lists false killer whales as "Near Threatened".

Source: [DD News](#)

30. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statement I is incorrect. IPCC reports are not legally binding. They provide scientific assessments and guidance on climate change, which serve as inputs for international climate negotiations and policymaking, but they do not impose legal obligations on member countries.
- Statement II is correct. The IPCC was created in 1988 by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to provide governments with scientific information to develop climate policies.

Source: [DD News](#)

31. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Nitrogen oxides are primarily emitted from combustion processes such as vehicle emissions, industrial activities, and power plants, rather than deforestation or soil erosion. While deforestation and soil erosion disrupt natural nitrogen cycles, they are not significant direct sources of NO₂ emissions.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) is a key component of photochemical smog. It reacts with sunlight and other pollutants to form secondary pollutants like ozone, which contribute to smog formation. NO₂ is a phytotoxin that directly damages plant cells and reduces crop yields. It also contributes to the formation of ozone, which further harms crops. Studies show that reducing NO₂ levels can significantly improve crop yields.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (B)

- Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) is a regulatory mechanism in India that mandates certain entities, such as electricity distribution companies (DISCOMs), open access consumers, and captive power producers, to purchase a specific percentage of their electricity from renewable energy (RE) sources. This policy aims to promote the adoption of renewable energy, reduce reliance on fossil fuels, and support India's climate action goals.

Source: [DD News](#)

33. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Statement-I:** The Gulf of Mannar region has been included in the hydrocarbon exploration under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas's 10th round of the Open Acreage Licensing Policy. This decision is based on the identification of potential hydrocarbon reserves in the deep-sea areas off the coasts of Tamil Nadu.

- **Statement-II:** The Gulf of Mannar is renowned for its rich marine biodiversity and is home to several endangered species, such as dugongs, turtles, and marine mammals. It is a protected Biosphere Reserve with significant ecological importance.
- While both statements are factually correct, the rich biodiversity of the Gulf of Mannar (Statement-II) does not explain why the region was included in hydrocarbon exploration (Statement-I).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. India (Odisha's Gahirmatha, Rushikulya, and Devi River mouth), Mexico (La Escobilla), and Costa Rica (Nancite and Ostional beaches) are globally recognized as the largest mass nesting sites (arribadas) for Olive Ridley turtles.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While Dhanushkodi and Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu are important nesting sites for Olive Ridley turtles within India, they are not among the largest globally or even within India. The largest mass nesting sites in India are located in Odisha (Gahirmatha, Rushikulya, and Devi River mouth).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Science & Technology

Q.1) Carbon monoxide dehydrogenase (CODH) enzyme helps in:

- a) Increasing carbon monoxide levels in the atmosphere.
- b) Breaking down carbon dioxide into carbon monoxide.
- c) Converting carbon monoxide into oxygen.
- d) Extracting energy by converting carbon monoxide into carbon dioxide.

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) produce zero carbon emissions during operation.
2. The Nuclear Energy Mission aims to promote research and development (R&D) of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding the Exercise Ekuverin:

1. It is a bilateral military exercise conducted annually between India and Indonesia.
2. The exercise aims to enhance interoperability in counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations.
3. The 2025 edition of the exercise is being held in Chaubatia, Uttarakhand, India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.4) *Vibrio natriegens* and 'Microbe X-32' bacteria were in news recently for:

- a) Their ability to degrade plastics.
- b) Their use in enhancing agricultural crop yields.
- c) Their role in producing biofuels from algae.
- d) Their discovery as pathogens causing waterborne diseases.

Q.5) Black holes do not produce light on their own, but they can still be seen because:

- a) Black holes reflect light from nearby stars like a mirror.
- b) A black hole's magnetic field creates direct light emissions visible to the naked eye.
- c) Matter entering a black hole undergoes compression and heating, which causes it to emit X-rays.
- d) Black holes emit gravitational waves that are visible to telescopes.

Q.6) India is planning to procure Strykers infantry combat vehicles (ICVs) from the US. The Stryker ICV is classified as which one of the following types of military vehicle?

- a) Main Battle Tank
- b) Infantry Fighting Vehicle
- c) Armoured Personnel Carrier
- d) Wheeled Armoured Vehicle

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) affects Central nervous system (CNS).
- 2. Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) can be caused by the contaminated water.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.8) With reference to the Pinaka Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is designed for area suppression, neutralizing large areas with its high volume of fire.
- 2. It is a surface-to-air missile system developed indigenously by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.9) Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) technology was seen in the news recently, in relation with:

- a) Reducing carbon dioxide emissions from vehicles
- b) Removing sulphur dioxide from thermal power plant emissions
- c) Capturing methane from agricultural waste
- d) Filtering particulate matter from industrial chimneys

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the Theatre Level Operational Exercise (TROPEX-25):

- 1. It focuses on synchronizing responses to conventional, asymmetric, and hybrid threats through inter-service coordination.
- 2. It involves all operational units of the Indian Navy.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.11) Which one of the following statements best describes the term 'Biomufacturing'?

- a) It refers to producing biofuels exclusively from genetically modified crops.
- b) It is the use of biological systems to make medicines, materials, and chemicals.
- c) It involves synthesizing organic compounds using inorganic catalysts.
- d) It is the process of manufacturing electronic components using biological organisms.

Q.12) Consider the following statements:

1. The Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas is an indigenous, lightweight, single-engine, multi-role supersonic fighter aircraft developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
2. The Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) is India's ambitious project to develop a sixth-generation stealth fighter jet.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.13) With reference to the Aero India 2025, which of the following statements are correct?

1. The theme of Aero India 2025 is 'Defence for the Future'.
2. The first Aero India was held in 1996.
3. Defence Ministers' Conclave at the Aero India 2025 focuses on fostering global defence partnerships and strategic collaborations.
4. Aero India highlights India's progress in domestic defence production.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 4 only
- b) 3 and 4 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1 and 3 only

Q.14) Which of the following two countries participate in the bilateral military Exercise CYCLONE?

- a) India and Egypt
- b) India and France
- c) Egypt and Saudi Arabia
- d) India and Saudi Arabia

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

1. India has prioritized self-reliance in defence production through supportive policies and initiatives.
2. Defence Exim portal aims to coordinate joint military exercises with other countries.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.16) Which one of the following statements best describes the term 'Biofoundry'?

- a) A biological waste processing plant that converts organic waste into biofuels.
- b) A facility that automates and accelerates biological design, engineering, and testing using synthetic biology.
- c) A specialized greenhouse for cultivating genetically modified crops in controlled conditions.
- d) A natural reserve dedicated to preserving microbial biodiversity for pharmaceutical research.

Q.17) Which one of the following is the main feature of Ten AI Weapon System (TAIWS) developed indigenously by the Indian Army?

- a) It uses secondary vision technology to detect movement in dense terrains such as forests and bushes.
- b) It is a fully autonomous drone system designed for aerial surveillance and combat operations.
- c) It is a naval weapon system designed for underwater target detection and engagement.
- d) It is a satellite-based communication system for real-time battlefield data sharing.

Q.18) With reference to the Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence (AI) for People and the Planet initiative, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to promote AI development that considers social and environmental impacts.
2. It closely aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.19) Consider the following statements:

1. P-8I Poseidon aircraft is manufactured by the United States.
2. Indian Air Force operates P-8I Poseidon aircraft.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.20) Which one of the following parasites is responsible for causing malaria?

- a) Trypanosoma
- b) Plasmodium
- c) Giardia
- d) Taenia

Q.21) Solar dehydration technique, seen in the news recently, aims to:

- a) Generate electricity using solar panels
- b) Convert solar energy into biofuels for agricultural machinery
- c) Dry and preserve food using solar energy
- d) Provide irrigation solutions by using solar-powered water pumps

Q.22) Consider the following statements:

1. Opioids are drugs that either derive from or mimic substances found in the opium poppy plant.
2. Suzetrigine is a non-opioid painkiller that prevents the brain from perceiving pain despite the presence of tissue injury.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.23) 'Gaia BH3' was seen in the news recently, is a:

- a) Newly discovered asteroid in the Kuiper Belt
- b) Supermassive black hole at the centre of the Milky Way
- c) Exoplanet with extreme atmospheric conditions
- d) Stellar-mass black hole in the Milky Way among the largest known

Q.24) Consider the following statements:

1. Brucellosis is a viral disease affecting the respiratory system.
2. The most common transmission of Brucellosis occurs via unpasteurised milk or cheese from infected animals.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.25) Which one of the following is correct regarding 'Algorithmic trading'?

- a) It refers to the use of computer programs and algorithms to execute trades at high speed and volume based on pre-defined criteria.
- b) It is a government-mandated system for regulating stock market transactions.
- c) It executes trades randomly to take advantage of unpredictable market fluctuations.
- d) It is a trading strategy that exclusively involves the use of cryptocurrencies.

Q.26) The primary purpose of the Laser Beam Riding Man Portable Air Defence (LBRM) Very Short-Range Air Defence (VSHORAD) system is to:

- a) Intercept long-range ballistic missiles
- b) Defend against low-altitude aerial threats at short ranges
- c) Provide air-to-air combat capabilities
- d) Conduct long-range reconnaissance missions

Q.27) Sagittarius A*, seen in the news recently, is:

- a) A newly discovered exoplanet in the Milky Way galaxy.
- b) A supermassive black hole at the center of the Milky Way galaxy.
- c) A star cluster orbiting the Milky Way's central region.
- d) A supernova remnant observed in the Andromeda galaxy.

Q.28) With reference to the Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST), consider the following statements:

1. It generates solar energy through nuclear fission reactions.
2. It is part of the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) program.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.29) Which one of the following is correct regarding the Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks?

- a) A cyberattack that breaches the security perimeter of a target to steal sensitive data.
- b) A single-source attack that floods a target with internet traffic.
- c) A cyberattack that uses legitimate user traffic to disable a network.
- d) A cyberattack that disrupts a target by overwhelming it with internet traffic from multiple sources.

Q.30) Counter unmanned aerial system (CUAS) technology aims to:

- a) Enhance the flight speed and manoeuvrability of drones for military operations.
- b) Improve the battery life of UAVs to extend their operational range.
- c) Intercept and neutralize unauthorized or hostile drones to prevent security threats.
- d) Develop autonomous navigation systems to make drones completely independent of human control.

Q.31) Which one of the following is correct regarding the Quantum Computing?

- a) Quantum computers use classical transistors but at a much smaller scale to achieve higher speed.
- b) Quantum computing eliminates the need for low temperatures and specialized hardware.
- c) Quantum algorithms always provide exact answers without any probability-based outcomes.
- d) Quantum computers use qubits which can exist in multiple states simultaneously due to superposition.

Q.32) Software-Defined Radios (SDRs) were recently in the news. Their primary purpose is to:

- a) Replace traditional radios with devices that have fixed functionalities.
- b) Enhance maritime security by providing advanced communication capabilities.
- c) Limit the adaptability of radio systems to specific frequency bands.
- d) Reduce the flexibility of radio systems by relying solely on hardware components.

Q.33) With reference to the Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QRSAM), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is designed to protect moving armoured formations from aerial threats, offering air defence on the move.
- 2. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) is responsible for the development of the QRSAM system in India.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.34) With reference to India's defence, consider the following statements:

- 1. Project-75I involves the acquisition of six advanced diesel-electric submarines.
- 2. Project-76 involves developing nuclear-powered submarines to ensure strategic dominance in the naval domain.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.35) Consider the following pairs:

Quantum Concepts-----Description

- 1. Superposition-----Correlation between particles regardless of distance
- 2. Entanglement-----Existence in multiple states simultaneously
- 3. Wavefunction collapse-----Conversion to a definite state upon measurement

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- a) Only one pair
- b) Only two pairs
- c) All three pairs
- d) None of the pairs

Q.36) 'Project Farm Vibes' was in the news recently for:

- a) Launching a new social media platform for farmers.
- b) Introducing a blockchain-based system for agricultural supply chains.
- c) Creating genetically modified crops resistant to climate change.
- d) Developing AI-powered tools to assist farmers in sustainable agriculture.

Q.37) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: National Science Day is celebrated annually on February 28.

Statement-II: Sir C.V. Raman discovered the Raman Effect on February 28, 1928.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Answer Key

1 – (d)	2 – (c)	3 – (a)	4 – (a)	5 – (c)	6 – (d)	7 – (b)	8 – (a)	9 – (b)	10 – (c)
11 – (b)	12 – (a)	13 – (c)	14 – (a)	15 – (a)	16 – (b)	17 – (a)	18 – (c)	19 – (a)	20 – (b)
21 – (c)	22 – (c)	23 – (d)	24 – (b)	25 – (a)	26 – (b)	27 – (b)	28 – (b)	29 – (d)	30 – (c)
31 – (d)	32 – (b)	33 – (a)	34 – (a)	35 – (a)	36 – (d)	37 – (a)			

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (D)

- The carbon monoxide dehydrogenase (CODH) enzyme helps microbes convert toxic carbon monoxide (CO) into carbon dioxide (CO₂), allowing them to extract energy for survival.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Like traditional nuclear reactors, SMRs generate electricity through nuclear fission, which does not produce carbon emissions during operation. The Nuclear Energy Mission, announced in the Union Budget 2025-26, focuses on advancing R&D for SMRs and aims to operationalize five indigenous SMR units by 2033. SMR can be machined separately, then assembled in a factory and transported to the site rather than having to be built on site. Scientists are also exploring even smaller reactors called microreactors, which can generate 1-20 MW of power.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. Exercise Ekuverin is conducted annually between India and the Maldives. The most recent 13th edition/2025 Exercise Ekuverin is being held at the Maafilefushi Training Centre in the Maldives.
- Statement 2 is correct. One of the primary objectives of Exercise Ekuverin is to improve interoperability between the armed forces of India and the Maldives in counter-insurgency (CI) and counter-terrorism (CT) operations.

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (A)

- Vibrio natriegens:** This fast-growing bacterium has been engineered to degrade plastics like PET by attaching PET-degrading enzymes to its surface. **Microbe X-32:** This bacterium can degrade multiple types of plastics, including PET, polyolefins, and polyamides like nylon.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (C)

- Black holes trap everything, including light, beyond the event horizon. However, as matter spirals in, it forms a hot accretion disk that emits X-rays, which telescopes detect to identify black holes indirectly.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Stryker Infantry Carrier Vehicle (ICV) is an eight-wheeled armoured vehicle designed for mobility and protection, capable of transporting infantry squads into combat zones efficiently. It is part of the Stryker family of wheeled armoured vehicles.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) primarily affects the Peripheral Nervous System (PNS). It involves damage to the peripheral nerves, which connect the brain and spinal cord to the rest of the body.
- Statement 2 is correct. GBS can be triggered by infections caused by bacteria such as *Campylobacter jejuni*, which can be transmitted through contaminated water. In recent outbreaks, including in Pune, contaminated water was identified as a source of *Campylobacter jejuni* infections that led to GBS cases.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Pinaka MBRL's primary role is area suppression through rapid saturation of large zones.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Pinaka is a surface-to-surface rocket artillery system. It was developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and its laboratory ARDE.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) technology is used to reduce sulphur dioxide (SO₂) emissions from the exhaust gases of thermal power plants. It is a pollution control technology that helps in meeting environmental regulations and improving air quality. SO₂ is a major contributor to acid rain and respiratory problems, and FGD systems are essential for compliance with emission norms.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. TROPEX-25 focuses on synchronizing responses to conventional, asymmetric, and hybrid threats. It aims to validate the Indian Navy's core warfighting skills and ensure an integrated, coordinated response involving multiple services (Indian Navy, Army, Air Force, and Coast Guard). The exercise involves all operational units of the Indian Navy, including ships, submarines, and aircraft, as well as substantial participation from other services.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- Biomanufacturing refers to the industrial production of a variety of products using biological systems, such as cells or enzymes. These products include medicines (e.g., biotherapeutics), materials (e.g., biopolymers), and chemicals (e.g., bio-based chemicals). Biotechnology manufacturing is being promoted under the Biotechnology for Economy, Environment, and Employment (BioE3) policy.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The LCA Tejas is an indigenous, lightweight, single-engine, multi-role supersonic fighter jet developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) under the guidance of the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA). It is designed to meet the Indian Air Force's requirements and replace ageing aircraft like the MiG-21.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The AMCA is a project to develop a fifth-generation stealth fighter jet. It incorporates advanced stealth features and cutting-edge technologies but does not fall under the sixth-generation category.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The theme of Aero India 2025 is 'The Runway to a Billion Opportunities'.
- Statement 2, 3 and 4 are correct. The first Aero India was held in 1996 at the Yelahanka Air Force Station in Bengaluru, Karnataka. The Defence Ministers' Conclave at Aero India 2025 focuses on themes like 'Building Resilience through International Defence and Global Engagement (BRIDGE)', emphasizing global defence partnerships, supply chain resilience, and strategic collaboration. Aero India showcases India's advancements in domestic defence production, including platforms like the LCA Tejas and Light Combat Helicopter Prachand. It also promotes self-reliance under initiatives like Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Exercise CYCLONE is a bilateral military exercise between India and Egypt, focused on enhancing cooperation and interoperability between their special forces. The exercise involves planning and executing special operations in desert and semi-desert terrains. A joint military exercise "Cyclone 2025", between India and Egypt will be held at the Mahajan Field Firing Range in Rajasthan. The 14-day exercise aims to enhance defence cooperation between India and Egypt by sharing professional skills and improving interoperability of special forces in desert environments. This is the third edition of Cyclone exercise.

Source: [AIR](#)

15. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. India has been focusing on achieving self-reliance in defence production through various measures, such as increasing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) limits, promoting domestic manufacturing, establishing Defence Industrial Corridors, and encouraging innovation through initiatives like Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX).
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Defence Exim portal is designed to streamline the export authorization process for defence products, making it easier for Indian companies to export their goods.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- A Biofoundry is a cutting-edge facility that integrates automation, synthetic biology, artificial intelligence (AI), and high-throughput experimentation to streamline and accelerate the design, engineering, and testing of biological systems. It focuses on the Design-Build-Test-Learn (DBTL) cycle to develop innovative solutions in areas like biomanufacturing, healthcare, agriculture, and sustainability. The Biotechnology Research Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development (Bio-RIDE) Scheme has two components in it: Biomanufacturing and Biofoundry.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Ten AI Weapon System (TAIWS), developed indigenously by the Indian Army, is designed to enhance border surveillance and counter-terrorism operations. Its primary feature is the use

of secondary vision technology, which allows it to detect movement in dense terrains like forests and bushes, making it highly effective in challenging environments such as Kashmir. This system integrates advanced AI capabilities with existing weaponry to improve operational efficiency and accuracy.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The "Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet" initiative emphasizes the development of AI that is ethical, human-centric, and sustainable. It seeks to address global inequalities, promote inclusivity, and ensure that AI technologies are developed and deployed with consideration for their social and environmental impacts. The initiative explicitly aligns with the goals of the SDGs, focusing on reducing inequalities, fostering inclusivity, and ensuring sustainable development. It aims to leverage AI to address challenges related to poverty, education, healthcare, climate action, and other SDG targets.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The P-8I Poseidon is manufactured by Boeing, a U.S.-based aerospace company. It is a variant of the P-8A Poseidon, developed for the U.S. Navy, and customized for the Indian Navy's requirements.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The P-8I Poseidon is operated by the Indian Navy, not the Indian Air Force. It is primarily used for maritime reconnaissance, anti-submarine warfare, and intelligence missions in the Indian Ocean Region.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

- Malaria is caused by protozoan parasites of the genus Plasmodium, which are transmitted to humans through the bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (C)

- The solar dehydration technique uses solar energy to dry fruits and vegetables, extending their shelf life, reducing agricultural waste, and enabling farmers to store produce for longer periods to sell at favourable market prices.

Source: [DD News](#)

22. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Opioids include natural, semi-synthetic, and synthetic chemicals that interact with opioid receptors in the body, and they either derive from or mimic substances found in the opium poppy plant. Suzetrigine is a non-opioid analgesic that works by selectively inhibiting the Nav1.8 pain-signalling pathway in the peripheral nervous system, blocking pain signals before they reach the brain.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

23. Correct Answer is (D)

- Gaia BH3 is the largest known stellar-mass black hole in the Milky Way, with a mass approximately 33 times that of the Sun. It was discovered using the Gaia telescope and is located in the constellation Aquila, about 2,000 light-years away from Earth. This discovery enhances our understanding of black hole formation and galactic evolution.

Source: [AIR](#)

24. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Brucellosis is not a viral disease; it is caused by Brucella bacteria, which are gram-negative bacteria. Additionally, it does not affect the respiratory system. Instead,

brucellosis causes systemic symptoms such as fever, joint pain, fatigue, and muscle aches, and it can affect various organs depending on the severity of the infection.

- Statement 2 is correct. The most common transmission of brucellosis occurs through the consumption of unpasteurized milk or cheese made from infected animals. Other modes of transmission include direct contact with infected animal tissues or fluids and inhalation of contaminated aerosols, but unpasteurized dairy products are the primary source.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

25. Correct Answer is (A)

- Algorithmic trading, also known as algo trading or automated trading, involves using computer programs and algorithms to execute trades at high speed and volume. These programs follow pre-defined criteria such as price, volume, timing, or other market conditions, ensuring efficiency and precision.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

26. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Laser Beam Riding Man Portable Air Defence (LBRM) Very Short-Range Air Defence (VSHORAD) system is specifically designed as a short-range, man-portable air defence solution. It is optimized to counter low-altitude threats such as drones, helicopters, and fixed-wing aircraft that bypass long-range air defence systems and approach at close range. The LBRM system is a man-portable air defence system (MANPADS) that uses laser beam riding technology to guide missiles toward their target. The LBRM VSHORAD system being supplied to India is based on the StarStreak missile system developed by Thales U.K. It is being manufactured in collaboration with Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) under the Make in India initiative, with up to 60% indigenous content.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- Sagittarius A* (Sgr A*) is a supermassive black hole located at the center of the Milky Way galaxy, approximately 26,000 light-years from Earth. It has a mass about 4 million times that of the Sun and was recently in the news due to observations made by NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, which studied the chaotic activity in its surrounding accretion disk.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. EAST is based on nuclear fusion, not fission. It aims to replicate the fusion process that powers the Sun, where hydrogen nuclei fuse to form helium, releasing vast amounts of energy. Fission, on the other hand, involves splitting heavy atomic nuclei (e.g., uranium) and is used in current nuclear reactors.
- Statement 2 is correct. EAST is part of the ITER program. China joined ITER in 2003, and EAST serves as a testbed for ITER technologies, contributing to research on steady-state plasma operations and advanced tokamak designs.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (D)

- A Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack is designed to overwhelm a target (server, network, or service) with excessive internet traffic originating from multiple compromised systems (botnets). This disrupts the normal functioning of the target, rendering it inaccessible.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (C)

- Counter-Unmanned Aerial System (CUAS) technology is designed to detect, track, intercept, and neutralize unauthorized or hostile drones that pose security risks. This technology is used to

protect critical infrastructure, military installations, public events, and restricted airspace from drone-related threats.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (D)

- Qubits can exist in a superposition of states (both 0 and 1 simultaneously), enabling quantum computers to perform complex calculations much faster than classical computers. Microsoft has recently introduced a new chip called Majorana 1, which it claims brings quantum computing closer to reality.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (B)

- SDRs enable secure, high-speed data exchange and encrypted voice communication, improving situational awareness and operational coordination for maritime law enforcement, search and rescue, and other critical missions of the Indian Coast Guard. They also improve interoperability for joint operations with the Indian Navy.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QRSAM) system is specifically designed to protect moving armoured columns from aerial threats. It has the capability to provide air defence on the move, with features like "Search on Move," "Track on Move," and "Fire on Short Halts".
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The QRSAM system was developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in collaboration with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Project-75I is a military procurement initiative aimed at acquiring six next-generation diesel-electric attack submarines equipped with advanced technologies like Air-Independent Propulsion (AIP) systems to enhance stealth and operational range.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Project-76 focuses on the development of indigenous conventional diesel-electric submarines, not nuclear-powered submarines. These submarines will have advanced features, such as AIP systems and Land Attack Cruise Missiles (LACMs), and aim for high indigenous content to boost self-reliance in submarine technology.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (A)

- Superposition refers to a quantum system existing in multiple states simultaneously until it is measured. For example, a qubit can exist as a combination of both $|0\rangle|0\rangle$ and $|1\rangle|1\rangle$ states at the same time.
- Entanglement refers to a phenomenon where the quantum states of two or more particles become correlated, such that the state of one particle is dependent on the state of the other(s), even if they are separated by large distances.
- Wavefunction collapse occurs when a quantum system, initially in a superposition of states, reduces to a single definite state due to measurement or observation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

36. Correct Answer is (D)

- Project Farm Vibes, led by Microsoft Research, focuses on using Artificial Intelligence (AI) and advanced technologies to help farmers improve agricultural practices. The initiative includes tools like FarmVibes.AI, which uses data from satellites, drones, and soil sensors to provide actionable

insights for sustainable farming. These insights help farmers optimize crop yields, reduce costs (e.g., fertilizers and water), and minimize environmental impact.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

37. Correct Answer is (A)

- National Science Day is celebrated on February 28 specifically to honour Sir C.V. Raman's discovery of the Raman Effect, which he announced on this date in 1928. Hence, Statement-II directly explains why Statement-I is true.

Source: [AIR](#)

